FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Karami in Damascus — Prime Minister Rashid Karami held talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on recent developments in the Lebanese situation, including current efforts to secure Israel's withdrawal without delay, Damascus radio reported. The suspension of the Al-Naqurah negotiations and Israel's announcement of its "partial withdrawal" topped the agenda of their talks, according to Beirut radio. Karami also met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Lebanese Public Works and Transport Minister Walid Junblatt to discuss the security situation in Beirut and the Al-Kharrub region, Beirut radio noted. Earlier, in remarks broadcast by the radio, Karami reaffirmed Lebanon's opposition to the deployment of UNIFIL north of the Al-Litani River, adding that UNIFIL should only be deployed along the Lebanese-Israeli border.

Security Situation — Both the Phalangist Lebanese Forces and the Progressive Socialist Party have "completely evacuated" their military positions in the Al-Kharrub region, according to a Phalangist security official cited by Voice of Lebanon radio. However, the radio also reported that around 2,000 armed Palestinians recently entered the Al-Kharrub and Al-Shuf regions.

Iran-Iraq War

Although IRNA reported that over 200 Iraqi soldiers were killed in Iraq's 27-28 January attack on Majnun Island, an Iraqi commander cited by INA contended that Iraqi casualties amounted to 7 wounded. He also said the Iranians subsequently launched five abortive attempts to retake positions captured by the Iraqis. Meanwhile, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio warned Iraq not to retaliate for its "complete defeat" at Majnun by attacking civilian targets. In another development, Iraq's President Saddam Husayn ordered the release of the last group of POW's to the International Red Cross committee, according to an official statement cited by Voice of the Masses radio.

As for the Gulf, an Iranian Supreme Defense Council spokesman, in an IRNA interview, accused Iraq of trying to draw other Gulf states into the war by spreading its attacks southward.

Tabah Talks

After 3 days of talks on the Tabah issue in Beersheba, Israel and Egypt were unable to reach agreement on the sovereignty issue or Egypt's demand for international arbitration, Jerusalem radio reported. The two sides did agree on some aspects of the MFO's role in the area, the radio noted. Egypt and Israel also agreed to continue talks in the next few weeks, according to IDF radio.

Western Sahara

A Saharan Information Ministry statement cited by Algiers radio expressed concern over alleged Moroccan-U.S. joint military maneuvers in the Moroccan border region close to the Western Sahara.

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'Arafat Receives New Year Greetings From Chernenko

GF291930 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, yesterday received a congratulatory card from Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the occasion of the new year.

Fatah's Khalid al-Hasan Arrives in Tunis

JN291940 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1622 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan arrived in Tunis from Amman yesterday after a 1-day visit to Jordan during which he met with King Husayn of Jordan and a number of Jordanian officials.

PNC Speaker Outlines Forthcoming Moves

JN300915 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — *SAWT AL-SHA'B* — PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih said the PNC chairmanship has received a number of invitations to attend meetings of Arab and international parliamentary unions, particularly the Arab Parliamentary Union [APU]. He asserted that he will represent the PNC at APU meetings to be held in Aden on 26 February. He will convey to the APU a real picture of what took place at the PNC's 17th session held in Amman last November. He said he will also convey to the APU the PNC resolutions and statements which express real Palestinian legitimacy.

Shaykh al-Sa'ih expressed his readiness to visit Damascus if a sound basis is prepared for the Palestinian-Syrian dialogue through Palestinian legitimacy.

Al-Sa'ih pointed out that during his recent visit to Algiers he found Algerian understanding and support for Palestinian legitimacy.

The PNC speaker rejected the move by some Palestinian organizations to create an alternate front to the PLO. He said this effort is rejected. It is a deviation from the Palestinian National Charter and PLO regulations.

The PNC speaker praised Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation, which effectively contributes to supporting our relatives' steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories through the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee.

Resistance Operation Carried Out in Ashdod

JN291904 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1622 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] In accordance with the directives and decisions of the [Palestinian] revolution leadership to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main arena of conflict, yesterday a group of our brave revolutionaries exploded a device that was planted amid gas balloons near a building in the coastal city of Ashdod in occupied Gaza. A great number of Zionists were injured and the explosion caused much damage.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but as usual, he did not disclose his losses. He said that his forces rushed to the area, launched a large-scale search campaign, and arrested 25 Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operation.

NAN Reports David-West OPEC Conference Remarks

AB291235 Lagos NAN in English 1220 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan. 29 (NAN) — The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, yesterday told the OPEC ministerial conference in Geneva that the issue of price differentials with regard to the need for a fair competition between Nigeria's bonny light and the British light crude, the Brent, was non-negotiable.

Speaking to the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) on the telephone from Geneva, the public affairs manager of the NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Company], Mr Alex Nwokedi, said that Prof David-West further told the meeting that certain statements by some OPEC ministers which gave the impression that OPEC could not resolve the issue of price differentials were "counter-productive to OPEC solidarity." Prof David-West told OPEC ministers that such statements had a "negative psychological effect" on the stability of the crude oil market.

According to Mr Nwokedi, all the members of OPEC applauded Nigeria's stance but the chairman of the organization's monitoring committee, Dr Mani' Sa'id 'Utaybah, and the Algerian energy minister, Mr Belkacem Nabi, walked out of the meeting. Mr Nwokedi said that within a few minutes of the walk-out, the Saudi oil minister, Shaykh Zaki Yamani and Prof David-West drove out to an unknown destination and returned thirty minutes later in company of Dr Otaiba. According to Mr Nwokedi, the three oil ministers walked to the conference venue holding hands.

NAN learnt that the meeting is expected to reconvene today to discuss "specifics" on price differentials based on Nigeria's proposal that the difference between light and heavy crudes should not be more than two dollars per barrel.

SPA: Egyptian Minister Withdraws From OPEC Meeting

LD291347 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1305 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva, 29 Jan (SPA) — The third emergency meeting of the OPEC oil ministers was held in Geneva at noon today to discuss the items and recommendations on their agenda, mainly the question of price differentials between heavy and light crudes and the problem of adhering to production quotas.

Egyptian Oil Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil failed to attend this meeting, saying that he has decided to withdraw because of differences between him and the other OPEC oil ministers. The Egyptian minister said that his country produces about 800,000 barrels a day of which it exports 400,000 barrels.

OPEC 'Almost' Reaches Oil Price Consensus

LD291351 Kuwait KUNA in English 1206 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva — Jan 29 (KUNA) — Saudi Arabia's oil minister said as OPEC went into a second day of talks on its pricing structure that the thirteen member countries were close to agreeing on the average price level for OPEC oils. Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani told KUNA the conference had "almost" reached agreement.

OPEC was considering switching from the $29 reference price for Saudi light to weighted average price, reliable sources said. Yamani, asked about cutting the reference price, replied: "We must compromise." What mattered was not the benchmark but the weighted average, he said.

Qatar's oil minister, 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani said there was a consensus to keep the heavy crude price at $26.50, and he expected OPEC would agree later today by how much to narrow the $3.75 gap with extra light crudes. The proposed spread has been from $2 to $2.90 dollars, with $2.50 the most likely figure. Talks were continuing on the $29 reference price, Al Thani said.

He stated the decision Tuesday of Egypt's oil minister, an observer to the talks, not to attend the conference or any OPEC meetings was not of great importance. "As Egypt is not a member of the organization, his presence is not all that important." However, Egypt's decision showed the growing disillusionment of non-OPEC oil exporters in the Third World with OPEC.

David-West on Price Structure

GF291814 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1737 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva, 29 Jan (WAM) — Nigerian Minister of Petroleum and Energy Tam David-West has announced that the ministerial working committee has reached an equation on OPEC's new price structure. In a statement to journalists, he expressed the belief that the new equation will be approved by the OPEC conference which will resume meetings this evening.

It should be noted that the ministerial conference had set up the ministerial working committee of five ministers in an intensive effort to resolve the complicated question of price differentials and to reach a new price structure for the organization.

The Nigerian minister declined to give further details on figures which were agreed upon within the new price structure which OPEC is seeking in order to give the opportunity for just competition between heavy and light crudes.

Sources close to the conference have told WAM that OPEC may give up the benchmark price of $29 per barrel and replace it with a new price structure, the minimum of which will be the price of heavy crude which is $26.50 per barrel. The price of super light crude will be pegged at $28.50 to $29.40 per barrel. Prices for the minimum and maximum limits for the new price structure are not yet known.

Agreement 'By Majority'

LD301138 Kuwait KUNA in English 1033 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Geneva, Jan 30 (KUNA) — As OPEC attempted to finalize a new pricing structure with lower prices and possibly scrapping the 29 dollar a barrel benchmark, Nigeria's oil minister said Wednesday the Geneva emergency conference could reach an agreement by majority.

Referring to hard-line extra light producers who have not wanted to cut their prices or see the market reduced, Tam David-West said the final decision taken by OPEC did not have to be unanimous. "OPEC has made several decisions on majority not consensus," he said.

The Nigerian minister hoped for unanimous approval of the new plan to stabilize the market, or else "a bigger majority" with broader support than had emerged from yesterday's talks. Iran, Libya and Algeria had held out against most other OPEC members wanting to accept the new pricing system.

David-West also said Nigeria would "very likely" get its prices back into conformity with the OPEC structure. Sources have said Nigeria is willing to raise its bonny light price from 28 dollars a barrel to 28.65.

KUWAIT

Tanzanian President Arrives for Talks With Amir

EA292123 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait — President Nyerere is in Kuwait for a 2-day official visit there which will include talks with Kuwait leader, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Mwalimu Nyerere, who is the current chairman of the OAU, is accompanied by the foreign minister, Ndugu Benjamin Mkapa, and the minister for Health, Ndugu Aaron Kiduo. He arrived in Kuwait today from New Delhi, where he had attended a 1-day meeting on nuclear disarmamaent along with the leaders of India, Mexico, Argentina, Greece, and Sweden.

Press Statement Issued

LD301106 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Press statement issued on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr Julius Nyerere to the State of Kuwait:

At the invitation of his highness the amir, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania Dr Julius Nyerere paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait during the period 29-30 January 1985. His excellency the guest and the delegation accompanying him were given a warm welcome, reflecting the good relations between the two friendly countries and their peoples.

In an atmosphere of amity and understanding, official talks were held between His Excellency President Nyerere and His Highness Shaykh Jabir ai-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah. During these talks views were exchanged on relations between the two friendly countries and the international issues of common interest.

The leaders of the two states noted with satisfaction the growth of relations between their two countries, and expressed their desire to develop further cooperation between the two friendly countries in various fields.

In discussing the dangerous situation in the Middle East, the leaders of the two countries reaffirmed their conviction that a just and permanent peace in the region can not be achieved without a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem, and without the Palestinian people regaining their legitimate national rights, including their right to establish their own independent state on their national soil. They also stressed their countries' support for the PLO as being the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The leaders of the two countries expressed their profound concern over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and reaffirmed their support for all efforts aimed at ending this war. The two leaders reaffirmed their intention to consolidate the march of Arab-African cooperation in all fields.

They also reaffirmed anew their total support for the African peoples' struggle for the liquidation of colonialism, all forms of foreign domination, and the regimes of racist minorities. In this regard the two sides expressed their support for the just struggle being waged by the people of Namibia under the leadership of SWAPO for attaining their freedom and national independence.

They stressed the importance of the role of the Nonaligned Movement in consolidating peace and progress in the world. The leaders of the two countries supported the declaration issued by the six-man summit held in New Delhi regarding nuclear disarmament and the militarization of space. The two leaders stressed the necessity of keeping outer space free from military use, including nuclear weapons. They also appealed to the nuclear states to halt the nuclear arms race as it entails a serious threat to mankind and the world.

His excellency the president of the United Republic of Tanzania expressed his profound thanks for the warm welcome he and the delegation accompanying him received. His Excellency President Nyerere invited His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah to visit the United Republic of Tanzania. His highness accepted the invitation with thanks. A date shall be fixed later.

Interior Minister Warns Against Rumors, Subversion

GF271410 Manama WAKH in English 1515 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 26 Jan (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad affirmed here that Kuwait can not remain isolated in a world fraught with conflict.

In an interview with Kuwaiti weekly *AL-RISALAH* magazine to be published here Sunday, the minister called on the nationals and residents not to listen to rumors that aim to destablize the country. He affirmed that the Interior Ministry is able to confront any subversion and does not conceal anything from the local press or the citizens because it depends on the cooperation between the citizens and security men. The Kuwaiti official pointed out that Kuwait is governed by constitution and laws, therefore, each suspect is brought to court and undergoes investigations according to the law.

Shaykh Nawwaf indicated that the critical situation witnessed by the region makes the legislation of new laws a very dangerous matter, noting however, that currently there is an intensive study on this issue (of a new residence law) undertaken by the competent authorities.

OMAN

Further Reportage on Visit of French Minister

Delivers Mitterrand Message

GF291410 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Majesty Sultan Qabus received a written message from His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, president of the

friendly Republic of France. The message was received by Fahd Al Bu Sa'id, deputy prime minister for legal affairs, during a meeting in his office at noon today with Jean-Michel Baylet, French deputy external relations minister, who led his country's delegation to the meetings of the joint Omani-French committee which concluded yesterday.

During the meeting cooperation between the two friendly countries and the means to enhance it in various sectors was discussed.

Joint Committee Issues Statement

GF291416 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Foreign Ministry issued a press statement today on the Omani-French joint committee meetings. The statement said that the committee held its first meeting in Muscat from 27 to 28 January. The Omani side was led by Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battashi, Foreign Ministry under secretary; the French side was led by Jean-Michel Baylet, French deputy external relations minister.

The statement said that the Omani and the French sides held identical views on the various proposals aimed at developing and strengthening cooperation and the close relations between the two countries, particularly in the economic and technical sectors.

The statement added that at the conclusion of the committee's meetings the two sides congratulated each other on the mutual agreement to strengthen the constructive cooperation, which undoubtedly will yield fruitful results by means of good bilateral relations between Muscat and Paris.

Both sides agreed to hold the second meeting of the joint committee in 1987 in Paris.

Concludes Visit, Departs 29 Jan

GF291422 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Jean-Michel Baylet, French deputy external relations minister, and his accompanying delegation left the country this afternoon. He led the French side in the meetings of the Omani-French joint committee which concluded in the Al-Ghubrah guest house last night.

QATAR

Somali Defense Minister Arrives 29 Jan

GF291734 Manama WAKH in English 1640 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 29 Jan (WAKH) — Somalian First Vice-President and Minister of Defense Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar arrived here today on a two-day visit to Qatar. He will hold talks with Qatari officials here on issues of mutual concern.

Delivers Message to Amir

GF301110 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpt] His Highness the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre dealing with current situation in Somalia and relations between the two fraternal countries.

The message was delivered by Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar, Somali first vice president and minister of defense, during a meeting with the amir in Doha this morning.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd May Cancel U.S. Visit Over Arms Sale Ban

LD291654 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1552 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Washington, 29 Jan (KUNA) — Diplomatic sources here say that His Highness King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia may cancel his official visit to the United States on 11 February, because of reports that the American Administration has decided not to sell American weapons to Arab countries, among them the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Foreign Minister on Fahd U.S. Visit, Arab Summit

PM291703 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Jan 85 p 1

[Hasin al-Bunyan report: "Message From King Fahd to King Husayn. Sa'ud al-Faysal to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: Saudi Arabia Ready for Summit Conference If Arabs Agree To Hold It"]

[Excerpts] Amman — King Husayn of Jordan yesterday received a message from the Saudi monarch King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The message, which dealt with the Middle East situation as well as bilateral relations, was conveyed to King Husayn by Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal during their meeting at the Jordanian royal court yesterday.

Meanwhile, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has emphasized that King Fahd's forthcoming visit to the United States is of great importance because the issues to be discussed during the visit deal not only with the region but also with peace and international security.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, the Saudi minister said that the visit comes at a significant stage because the U.S. President has already begun his second term of office and U.S. policy will therefore become clear. He stressed the importance of the U.S. role not only in promoting international security but also in relation to what it could do for the Middle East.

On the question of an Arab summit conference, Al-Faysal told *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*: "We are hopeful that the summit conference will be held in circumstances that would ensure its success." He emphasized that Saudi Arabia "is always ready for

such a conference if the Arab states are convinced the conditions are ripe for such a conference."

The Saudi minister revealed that the Saudi Government has contacted Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi about making a tour of the Arab countries to consolidate Arab views on holding an Arab summit conference. Klibi will resume his contacts with Arab leaders on this matter.

Thai Foreign Minister Meets Press, Departs

LD292025 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila this evening left Riyadh at the end of a 3-day official visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by Ambassador 'Isa al-Nuwaysir, head of the protocol department at the Foreign Ministry, and a number of officials from the Foreign Ministry.

Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila held a news conference today in which he delivered a statement on his visit to the Kingdom and its aims; his talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; the issues raised at these talks; and his meetings with officials in the Kingdom.

The Thai foreign minister expressed his pleasure at visiting the Kingdom, and stressed that the visit gave him an opportunity to meet a number of senior officials and exchange views with them concerning a number of issues of mutual interest. He pointed out that the aim of his visit to the Kingdom was to consolidate cooperation between the two countries in the commercial and economic spheres and to strengthen their relations, which he described as firm. There are many opportunities for developing these relations, he said. The Thai foreign minister expressed his profound admiration for the Kingdom's great progress and development under the leadership of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, which gave Saudi citizens high living standards.

The Thai foreign minister announced that a Saudi-Thai commission was established to prepare a draft agreement on economic and technical cooperation, which will be the framework for more cooperation in the economic, technical, and trade circles between the Kingdom and Thailand.

Regarding the situation in the Middle East, the Thai Foreign minister said that this subject was discussed with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, who acquainted him with the Kingdom's firm attitude on the Mideast crisis, particularly the Palestinian question. He said that his country's attitude on the Palestinians is firm — the PLO is the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He reaffirmed the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own independent state.

Civil Defense Commander Returns From Taiwan

LD291311 Riyadh SPA in English 1218 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 29, SPA — Civil Defense Director General Gen Hashim 'Abd al-Rahman returned home today after a two-week long visit to the Republic of China. During the visit Gen Hashim discussed cooperation between the two countries in the field of civil defense with ROC's officials. He was accompanied by a number of the civil defense officers.

UAE

Reportage on Visit of Iraqi Finance Minister

Comments on Oil Pipeline Projects

GF290918 Doha QNA in Arabic 0715 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Jan (QNA) — Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Tawfiq, who is currently visiting the UAE, has stated that the work on the Iraqi pipeline which extends to the Saudi port of Yanbu' will be concluded in the last quarter of 1985 and that oil will be pumped through this pipeline in order to prop up the Iraqi economy.

In a statement to the Abu Dhabi newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published today he said that the execution of the Iraqi pipeline project, which extends to the port of Aqaba, is still being considered. It is awaiting certain guarantees to ensure the safety of the pipeline and enable Iraq to execute it.

He emphasized that the Iraqi economy is experiencing a balanced stage despite the conditions of the war and the international economic recession. He also asserted that the Iraqi dinar was not affected by the rate of exchange of foreign currencies. Its rate has remained constant against the dollar. He added that the huge developments which took place in Iraq, particularly after correcting the prices of oil, helped the Iraqi economy expand productive services. Iraq has invested heavily in development projects and is producing the required revenues.

On the current size of the debt, the Iraqi minister said that his country is capable of handling these debts. It is also capable of meeting the requirements of the companies that execute some projects. He asserted that the debts are not that large.

Joint Cooperation Protocol Signed

JN291155 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 29 Jan (INA) — Iraq and the UAE signed a joint cooperation protocol at the end of the third session of the Iraqi-UAE joint committee here today. The protocol was signed for Iraq by Hisham Hasan Tawfiq, finance minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the commitee, and for the UAE by Sayf al-Jarwan, minister of economy and trade.

The two sides agreed to expand trade; continue their participation in fairs held by the two countries; exchange trade, agricultural, and industrial delegations and expertise; and promote cooperation in the cultural, technical, and tourist spheres. In statements issued after signing the protocol, the heads of the two delegations stressed the importance of expanding bilateral economic and trade cooperation in the future to include all spheres.

Meets With Counterpart
GF291625 Manama WAKH in English 1545 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Dubayy, 29 Jan (WAKH) — UAE Minister of Finance and Industry Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid today received visiting Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq.

They discussed ways of promoting financial and commercial cooperation between the UAE and Iraq. The meeting was attended by Sayf ibn 'Ali al-Jarwan, UAE minister of economy and commerce, and Taha Rajab, Iraqi ambassador to the UAE.

Earlier today, the Iraqi minister had talks with Ahmad Hamid al-Ta'ir, UAE minister of state for finance and industry, on increasing the volume of trade between the two countries in addition to exchanging technical expertise especially in the insurance sector.

Al-Ta'ir said after the meeting that he also discussed with the Iraqi minister joint Arab efforts to improve the Arab economic and financial institutions prior to the meeting of Arab Development Fund to be held in Khartoum, Sudan, in April.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi official praised the outcome of his talks with officials here and said the discussions would further promote existing financial, economic and technical cooperation.

Concludes Visit, Departs 29 Jan
GF291905 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 29 Jan (WAKH) — Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq left Dubai this evening at the end of several days' visit to the UAE. During the visit he attended the third meeting of the joint committee between the two countries which ended today.

Sudanese Information Minister Arrives 29 Jan
GF291722 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 29 Jan (WAKH) — Sudanese Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shammu arrived in Abu Dhabi this evening on a visit to the UAE. During the visit, the Sudanese minister will hold talks with a number of UAE officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. The visit comes within the framework of his tour of a number of countries in the region.

PDRY

Kuwaiti Interior Ministry Official Concludes Visit
GF291348 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Major General Yusuf al-Khurafi, under secretary to the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry, and his accompanying delegation left Aden today after several days' visit to our country. During the visit he held talks with a number of officials at the Interior Ministry on cooperation and coordinating relations between the interior ministries of the two countries.

Sanaa VOP: PLO's 'Arafat Briefs President, Departs
GF291630 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] left Sanaa this evening after a short visit to the YAR during which he briefed Brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Abu 'Ammar said his talks with the brother president dealt with issues concerning the Arab nation, particularly current developments in the region. He said he briefed the brother president on the recent Palestinian moves after the meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Committee. He noted that during the meeting they discussed the situation inside the occupied territories and relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions.

Talks Continue in Beersheba on Tabah Issue

MFO Security Role Discussed

NC281327 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, assistant foreign minister and head of Egypt's delegation to the Tabah talks, declared that any Israeli police presence in the Tabah area violates both the letter and the spirit of the peace agreement.

The Egyptian and Israeli delegations to the Tabah talks, which are being held in Beersheba, resumed their peripheral consultations today on the security tasks to be entrusted to the MFO in the Tabah region.

28 Jan Session Ends

NC281901 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The evening session of talks on Tabah among the Egyptian, Israeli, and U.S. delegations in Beersheba has ended. They discussed the duties with which the multinational force will be entrusted if the Egyptian and Israeli sides agree on this force entering the Tabah area. Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, head of the Egyptian delegation said that the two sides presented new constructive ideas for solving the problem, that these ideas were discussed, and that he hoped positive results would be reached.

29 Jan Session Ends

NC292114 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The fifth session of the Egyptian-Israeli talks on the future of Tabah ended in Beersheba this evening. The two sides agreed on a formula of proposals, which will presented to the Egyptian and Israeli Governments for ratification to enable the two sides to agree over the role of the international forces in Tabah.

The Egyptian side, under Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, is due to return to Cairo tomorrow.

Badawi Describes Tabah Talks as 'Fruitful'

NC301038 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jan (MENA) — In a statement following his arrival, Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi described the Tabah talks as "useful and fruitful", and said that during the talks certain views were brought closer together. He said that there are still some points on which agreement has not been reached, and pointed out that by continuing the dialogue these differences can be overcome. He further said that agreement was reached on certain tasks to be handed over to the multinational force in the Sinai.

The head of the Egyptian delegation to the Tabah negotiations added that the date and venue of the second round of talks have not yet been fixed. Concluding his statement, Ambassador Badawi said that he will submit a comprehensive report on the Tabah talks to Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid this evening. The Tabah talks began last Sunday in Beersheba and five rounds of talks were held, the last of which was held yesterday evening.

NDP's Khalil Views Tabah Problem

PM292005 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 26 Jan 85 p 7

[Interview with Dr Mustafa Khalil, chairman of NDP Foreign Relations Committee, by Sana' al-Sa'id in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: On 25 April 1982 an agreement was signed with the aim of resolving the dispute over Tabah. Indeed, the agreement was concluded in the first place to normalize the situation until the location of border markers is finally fixed.

Answer: There was a dispute over 12 locations, but most important of all was that of Wadi Tabah, for the following reasons:

First, Wadi Tabah faces Jazirat Fir'awn and is therefore in a particularly strategic position.

Second, Wadi Tabah is bordered by hills of strategic importance to the area and, as far as the Israeli side is concerned, it is an extension of its shore on the Gulf of Al-'Aqabah. For this reason Israel has tried to impose a status quo by building the Sonesta Hotel, despite the Egyptian Government's objection . The Egyptian side stipulated in the April 1982 agreement that no new installations were to be built in the area until the matter was settled. The agreement also provides that a final agreement should be reached through Article 7 of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

Question: Israel has violated this agreement by trying to create a special position or a temporary system in Tabah until the dispute is resolved. At the same time, it has sought to prolong the negotiations and refuses to go to arbitration, despite the clear stipulation in Article 7 that problems arising between the two countries should be solved through negotiations and, if that is exhausted, by resort to conciliation or arbitration.

Answer: This is a very important question, because the April 1982 agreement frankly stipulated that this dispute should be solved in accordance with Article 7 of the treaty which, as you said, provides for negotiation and then conciliation or arbitration. The negotiations have so far lasted almost 2 years, and the sides have exhausted all efforts to reach agreement through negotiations. Now Israel must prove its credibility with regard to respecting the peace treaty by implementing Article 7 . Time-wasting, procrastination, prevarication, and refusing to agree are harmful to Egyptian-Israeli relations because, first of all, they constitute blatant violation of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. This procrastination has also cast shadows of doubt on Israel's intentions; this adversely affects public opinion in Egypt and, consequently, has a negative effect on the normalization process.

Egypt rejects this regrettable procrastination, and that is why President Mubarak considered it one obstacle to the improvement of relations between the two countries when he pointed to the solution of the Tabah problem as being one of the three conditions for proving Israel's goodwill toward peace.

We must not forget either that, because of the so-called cold peace or lukewarm peace, the extremist elements in Israel, thosethat do not wish to complete the peace process, have become active in pressuring the Israeli Government to adopt a hard line on the question of peace. Therefore, solving this problem would greatly benefit Egyptian-Israel relations on one hand and neutralize the extremist elements in Israel on the other. It would also restore confidence to the Egyptian side that Israel is committed to implementing what it has signed, and would dispel doubts about its intentions.

Question: In light of your experience during the negotiations with Israel on the peace treaty and normalization, what do you expect from the Israeli Government in the talks over Tabah? Will not Israel give the excuse that negotiations should be continued on the grounds that they have not been exhausted?

Answer: Establishing that the negotiations have been exhausted does not depend on Israel's judgement alone. This is because, as far as I know, the two sides have exhausted their documents and their arguments. There is no further data that can be submitted. Indeed, there is nothing left in Israel's hand to submit as a basis for continuing with the negotiations. This is in addition to the fact that recognizing the futility of negotiations does not require the agreement of both sides on this matter. Moreover, since such a long time has passed and nothing can motivate the negotiations, and as long as Egypt, as a result, believes that the negotiations should end and resort be made to the second step to determine the dispute, the natural response is bound to be adoption of the definite method of resolving the dispute over Tabah.

Question: The adoption of a suitable method for resolving the dispute over Tabah is a political decision. Do you believe that Mr Shim'on Peres is capable of making such a decision? In other words, what do you expect from Israeli Prime Minister Peres as the next step?

Answer: I expect Mr Peres, who proved his realism and objectivity when he announced withdrawal from Lebanon and declared his desire to improve the climate of Egyptian-Israel relations, to study the documents presented by both sides and both sides' views regarding the Tabah problem. I am sure that he will find that there is no justification for prolonging the dispute and no point in continuing it, particularly since continuation is totally contrary to the common desire to improve relations between the two countries. Perhaps, as a result of such study and in order to resolve this futile dispute, he will declare Israel's renunciation of its claims and accept the borderline to which Israel withdrew in 1956.

However, if his view is that the conflict should continue, with all its negative effects on relations between the two countries, he must declare his acceptance of the principle of arbitration which I have just explained since there is no point in wasting time in negotiations when Egypt has already declared its position of not agreeing to continue because the negotiations have been exhausted. Moreover, there is no way of resorting to the method of conciliation, for the reasons I have already explained in this interview.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Outlines Egypt's Position on Tabah

PM291707 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 27 Jan 85 pp 1,3

[Huda Tawfiq report: "Egypt's Position at Tabah Talks Today: We Reject Any Breach of Sovereignty"]

[Excerpts] The Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah begin in Beersheba today in the presence of the United States. Egypt has very clearly emphasized that, while committed to the provisions of the 25 April agreement which speaks of negotiations and arbitration, Egypt will not accept any undermining of its sovereignty over even one inch of Egyptian territory. Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has stated that during the negotiations Egypt will request implementation of all the provisions of the 25 April agreement. He expressed hope that the talks will lead to some progress and that the picture will be clearer after the completion of the talks and the return of the Egyptian delegation.

AL-JUMHUIRYAH's diplomatic editor has learned that Egypt's position at the talks is as follows:

1. There should only be one topic on the agenda, namely, implementation of the 25 April agreement, without straying into any labyrinths.

2. Egypt has its own proposals for implementation of the agreement. In this connection, Egypt calls for the withdrawal of the Israeli police force from Tabah because its presence constitutes a flagrant violation of the 25 April agreement; this agreement stipulates that no forces from either side are allowed in the disputed area.

There should be agreement on temporary arrangements in Tabah providing for the deployment of multinational forces in the area.

There should be agreement on the powers and duties of these forces, which should be in charge of security and order.

The main emphasis will be on finding a final solution to the problem through international arbitration. The Egyptian side stresses that the 25 April agreement clearly stipulates that no side is allowed to take any measures that might prejudice the final solution or affect the other side. The entry of the Israeli police force into the area on the pretext that there is a hotel and tourists there is a flagrant breach of the agreement. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* has learned that the Israeli side has agreed to the deployment of a multinational force in the area but refuses to withdraw its police force on the grounds that there is life and activity in the area. The Israeli side believes that arbitration is a political matter and should therefore be discussed at a political, not technical level; whereas Cairo believes that all provisions of the 25 April agreement should be tackled in these talks which are being held alternately in Beersheba and Ismailia.

AL-AKHBAR Comments on Tabah Issue

NC300614 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 27 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline: "Tabah Is Not Negotiable," *AL-AKHBAR* says: The Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on the Tabah issue will begin in Beersheba today in the presence of U.S. diplomats. The negotiations, which are being held during critical times, are greatly significant for many reasons. As is known, this issue is not connected with the borders between Egypt and Israel, but only with one of the international border marks that were erected in 1906. Furthermore, there is a map, which is annexed to the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, confirming that Tabah exists within Egyptian borders. International news agencies point to the map that was submitted by the Israeli Foreign Ministry in February 1982 showing Tabah within Egyptian territory. All this represents unequivocal evidence confirming Egypt's right to this area of its land and means that this right is not subject to negotiations or bargaining.

AL-AKHBAR asks: First, what makes Israel, which always complains that its relations with Egypt are not improving, raise such problems over this issue? Second, this issue, which has prolonged the period of differences between Egypt and Israel, is not in Israel's interest. This issue makes extremist elements in Israel seize the opportnity to ask: What is the advantage of peace between Egypt and Israel? Third, raising the issue in this manner would make the Egyptian people doubt Israel's credibility for honoring its commitments. Fourth, Israel and the entire world realize that Egypt is committed to peace as its firm strategy and the ball is now in Israel's court to let Egypt adhere to this strategy. Fifth, the continuing differences between Egypt and Israel, despite the presence of the peace treaty, would prompt the moderate Arab states to doubt Israel's intentions. Israel is always trying to prove its intentions of achieving a comprehensive peace with its Arab neighbors. Sixth, the continuing differences between Egypt and Israel would represent a blow to the efforts that are being made by Egypt, Jordan, and the PLO for charting a joint strategy for the Middle East strategy.

Al-JUMHURIYAH Comments on Rabin Remarks

NC300714 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 30 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Israel, the United States, and Moves Toward a Settlement", the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that the statement Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin made following his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz *in Washington on the day before yesterday*, clearly affirms that Israel still rejects the idea of convening an international conference to settle the Middle East crisis.

The paper says that by adhering to this position, Israel wants the situation to continue unchanged, and that the deadlock preventing moves toward a just and comprehensive settlement continues. The paper says that the excuse that Israel always uses, Rabin made this clear in his statement following his talks with George Shultz, is to prevent the Soviet Union from politically infiltrating into the region.

AL-JUMHURIYAH says that in his answer to the Israeli minister, Shultz made it clear that the contacts between the United States and the Soviet Union will continue, because Washington is interested in establishing a dialogue between the two superpowers. Shultz, however, said that the U.S. Government will continue its opposition to the idea of convening an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of the Soviet Union.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-JUMHURIYAH* hopes that this agreement in views between the United States and Israel will not also extend to Israel's clear desire for freezing moves toward a comprehensive settlement so that no further doubt will be cast on the U.S. stand, which would cause a further deterioration in its credibility as a basic partner in the process to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Court Approves Israel's Participation in Fair

NC291852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 29 Jan (MENA) — The Administrative Court of the State Council today supported the minister of culture's decision on the participation of Israel in the Cairo international book fair.

Explaining the reasons for its judgement, the court said that the state has evaluative power [sultah taqdiriyah] in such conditions which exceed the sovereignty of the judiciary. The court pointed out that the departments concerned are exercising censorship over books exhibited in the fair. Five publishing houses had filed a suit with the Administrative Court demanding suspension of the implementation of the Culture Ministry's decision approving Israel's participation in the book fair.

'Ali Receives Jordanian Labor Minister 29 Jan

NC291645 Cairo MENA in English 1620 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, Jan 29 (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received this afternoon visiting Jordanian Labour Minister Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir, who conveyed to him a verbal message from Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat.

'Abd al-Jabir said, following the meeting, that the message came in appreciation of the role taken up by the prime minister for bolstering bilateral cooperation in various fields. The Jordanian minister said he and Minister of Manpower and Vocational Training Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad would sign an agreement on cooperation in the fields of labour and social insurance.

The volume of the Egyptian labour in Jordan reached 122,000 workers, representing 80 per cent of the non-Jordanian workers, of whom 90,000 enjoy social insurance, he added.

Foreign Ministry on Release of Iranian POW's

JN291722 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1705 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated the following:

President leader Saddam Husayn has ordered the following: In harmony with our principles and because our enemy is the spiteful, aggressive Iranian regime and not the Iranian people, who are afflicted by it and its despotic policies; due to our profound and genuine faith in peace with Iran and in good-neighborliness with its people; and after it has been confirmed from several sources, including statements made by the Iranian prisoners of war who were captured on the night of 27-28 January 1985, that the Iranian people do not want the war and fighting to continue, we have decided to release the last group of prisoners of war. We will hand them over to the representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and to grant them the right to stay in Iraq, leave for any world country, or return to Iran.

Army Command Issues Communique No 1,726

JN291755 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,726 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 29 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The skillful Iraqi blows are the result of our repeated warnings that we have confirmed in the battlefield. When our Armed Forces issue a warning, they mean exactly what they say. They also act on their warnings by splendid operations against the remnants of the aggressors, inflicting massive losses in personnel and war materiel. Iraq's heroic forces will continue to be strong and victorious until the expansionist aggressors are deterred and they respond to the call for peace. The glorious soldiers of justice will continue to be waitingwith vigilance and relentless determination in defense of Iraq's pure soil and for the sake of national sovereignty and strength. As for the forces of injustice and aggression, their lot will only be continuous, abject defeats on land, sea, and air. The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In view of the victory scored yesterday, our triumphant Armed Forces in the 3d Army Corps' sector, using artillery and other weapons, continued to deal continuous, concentrated blows to the enemy, inflicting losses in men and equipment. Elsewhere in the same sector, three enemy troops were killed, others wounded, and one enemy machinegun emplacement and one infantry position were destroyed. Our forward units found weapons and equipment left by the enemy in the battlefield on the night of 27-28 January.

2. While carrying out its duty in no-man's-land, one of our brave patrols in the northern sector of the operational theater managed to kill five enemy troops and wound others. All the patrol's soldiers returned safely to base, praise be to God. In other places in the same sector, our forward units pounded the enemy positions and weapon emplacements with artillery and mortars, inflicting large losses in men and equipment. Our units also managed to destroy one infantry position and one hardware stockpile, killing their occupants.

3. With lightning strikes, our brave units in the central sector of the operational theater continued to engage the enemy and strike at its positions and equipment, destroying four personnel shelters with their occupants, setting fire to three hardware stockpiles, and destroying one observation post with its occupants.

4. One observation post was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. The vicious enemy shelled some civilian areas in Basra with heavy artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 January 1985

Army Commanders Comment on Recent War Actions

3d Army Corps Activities

JN291643 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Jan (INA) — Staff Major General Ahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of the 3d Army Corps, has said that the Iraqi military units that carried out the bold operation against the Iranian forces in the operational sector east of Basra did not lose a single martyr and that only very few were wounded.

In a statement to the Armed Forces radio here today, 'Abd al-Rashid said that the military units carried out their assault and occupied all the predetermined targets with unparalleled determination and courage after inflicting massive losses in lives and equipment on the enemy. He pointed out that this bold operation will certainly affect the course of the field operations.

The 3d Army Corps commander stressed that the capable military units will deal crushing blows to the Iranian forces of aggression until the Tehran rulers halt their actions, opt for peace, and abandon their hostile, racist policy against Iraq.

Al-Husayn Forces' Moves

JN300649 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jan (INA) — An Iraqi military commander has stated that Iraqi forces have foiled several Iranian attempts to recapture the positions Iraqi forces occupied on Monday. The commander of the Al-Husayn Forces said that the Iranians launched five aborted offensives to recapture the positions Iraqi forces had occupied following their advance on the three predetermined axes.

The commander said that this battle, during which the Iranians sustained heavy losses, lasted 7 hours, and has proved that the Iraqis are always ready to decisively settle any battle they wage in their interest. The commander stressed that the recent Nasr Allah battle was quick and successful, and was waged with a minimum of Iraqi losses since only seven were wounded. He explained that the most important factor in this battle was the

element of surprise and that the Iraqi forces occupied the targets set for them and even advanced 20 meters beyond these targets.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Views Purpose of Iraqi Attack

JN291039 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Under the headline "Another Eloquent Lesson" *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says: Our valiant Armed Forces scored another brilliant victory yesterday, a victory that glorifies strong and beloved Iraq and humiliates the Khomeyniite clique ruling Iran. With accurate planning, unique and unprecedented courage, and unflinching determination, valiant formations belonging to the 3d Army Corps and the forces supporting them advanced on three axes toward defined targets whose depth had been set by our unique and wise command. Waging surprise battles, they managed to secure these targets and take up position in them after crushing the collapsing Khomeynite forces, killing many and capturing those who failed to escape.

After our valiant forces' earlier withdrawal to the international border, where they had taken up defensive positions, yesterday's victory is further evidence that our forces still have the initiative and are still capable of conducting surprise attacks against the enemy in its positions, completely crushing it, and wresting any target they wish from the enemy. Perhaps this will make the arrogant Iranian rulers return to their senses and realize that Iraq's call for peace stems from neither weakness nor weariness, but from a sincere desire to avoid more bloodshed and to devote attention to development. Iraq is capable of transforming its defensive position to an offensive one when it wants with extreme flexibility and proven ability.

Let this be a new lesson to those jesters who make threats and boasts periodically that the time has come to understand that they have no hope in this war and that their only salvation is to refrain from their evil course and abide by the course of peace. Otherwise, valiant Saddam Husayn's Iraq will surprise them at any moment with a new kind of strike, and reach them every time from places they do not expect. This is not an empty boast but a fact that has been substantiated by tangible evidence.

Iraq does not adopt rigid positions, stick to one method and depend on a specific type of weapon, or restrict itself to one front. Iraq's enlightened and far-sighted command, the courage and intrepidity of its sons, and their faithful attachment to their land and history give Iraq great flexibility in inflicting more harm on the agressors, tightening the siege on them, and crushing the evil aggressors. Those among them who live will testify to this.

UN Team Visits Village Shelled by Iran

JN290659 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The UN team supervising the implementation of the UN resolution that calls for refraining from shelling cities and residential suburbs visited Al-Basrah Governorate today.

Accompanied by a Red Cross representative, the team noted the effects of the Iranian enemy's heavy artillery shelling of Sakhrijah village in the subdistrict of Al-Thaghir in the Al-Qurnah District.

It is worth noting that the Iranian artillery shelling resulted in the wounding of eight students from the Al-Nahrawan Elementary School, the school porter, and one girl.

A number of the governorate officials accompanied the UN team.

Briefs

Iraqi-Jordanian Microwave Project — Amman , Jan 29, INA — A microwave project linking the Iraqi and Jordanian capitals will be officially inaugurated next Sunday when the two countries' ministers of communications exchange words through the new line, a Jordanian responsible source said. The source told INA's correspondent here today that the project will further telephone services between Jordan and Iraq and enable the two countries to exchange TV and cultural programmes directly. In the first phase of the project, in which experimental work started last night, Iraq will provide 120 channels for telephone and telex services, a figure that will reach over the second phase 990 channels, including an intermediary one for connecting Iraq with other Arab countries. [Text] [*Baghdad INA in English 1430 GMT 29 Jan 85 JN*]

New Sudanese Ambassador — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, on the occasion of assuming his new post in Baghdad. [Text] [*Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Jan 85 JN*]

King Husayn Leaves for Baghdad 30 Jan

JN301121 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn left Amman for Baghdad this morning on a short visit to Iraq during which he and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn will review the latest developments of the situation in the region and relations between the two fraternal countries.

Present at the airport to bid farewell to his majesty were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi, House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz, Royal Hashemite Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zayd, ministers, the chief of staff, ranking state and military officials, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

His majesty is accompanied by Ahmad 'Ubaydat, prime minister; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, court minister; and Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, Jordanian Armed Forces commander in chief.

His highness the crown prince was sworn in before His Majesty King Husayn as regent during during his majesty's absence abroad and in the presence of Cabinet ministers.

Monte Carlo on 'Silence' Over Sharaf Resignation

JN291831 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1750 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Text] The resignation of Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf yesterday evening was met with complete silence by official Jordanian circles. The Jordanian press published a brief item on the acceptance of Layla Sharaf's resignation, but did not refer to the reasons for the resignation as mentioned in Sharaf's letter to the prime minister in which she objected particularly to Jordanian information policy.

A new information minister has yet to be appointed in Jordan.

Sharaf Reportedly Leaves Country

JN291826 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] AFP says in a dispatch from Amman that the resignation of Jordanian Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf was a real political surprise in Jordan because she revealed her differences with the highest political authorities in the country. Mrs Sharaf left Amman yesterday for an unknown destination after announcing her resignation and after releasing her letter of resignation to the local press and foreign news agencies.

In her letter of resignation to Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Mrs Sharaf said that official Jordanian policy has completely ignored freedom of expression even on the simplest information matters. She said that she no longer had the desire to continue her work as information minister and to particpate in an unclear information policy that neither serves the country and people, nor depends on love for and confidence in the citizen. Mrs Sharaf expressed her regret that serious decisions are made without discussion and in an improvised manner. She said that newspapers are not permitted to discuss these decisions.

Senate Ratifies Passport Law, Studies Laws

JN291307 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Amman — In its session which was held this morning under President Ahmad al-Lawzi and which was attended by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers, the Senate ratified, with an absolute majority, Law No 25 for 1984 amending the Passport Law in preparation for referring it to the Cabinet to complete the constitutional procedures.

The Senate also referred Provisional Law No 5 for 1984 amending the Physicians Union Law to the Legal Committee, as well as Provisional Law No 36 for 1982 amending the Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Holy Places Law. The Senate also referred Provisional Law No 16 for 1981, the Mu'tah University Law, to the legal and educational committees.

Columnist Urges End to Tribal Practices

JN300640 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 19 Jan 85 p 5

["Talking Straight" column by Marwan Mu'shir: "De-tribalism: Towards the Rule of One Law"]

[Text] The Issue of tribalism and tribal practices in Jordan is certainly older than the modern state itself. Ever since Jordan embarked on an ambitious social development programme however, the question of how great a role tribal practices play in Jordanian affairs has always been hotly debated. Recently, the subject was brought to the limelight again by the Upper House of Parliament, where many senators rejected these practices and accused the government of protecting them despite the repealing of the tribal law in 1976.

The government on its part denied those charges. Anyone living in this country, knows that the government's claim is shaky at best. The government may not have broken any laws, but its implicit support of tribal practices are abundant in Jordan, and that they are followed not only by bedouins but also by many of urbanite, educated Jordanian families. It is also a fact that there are strong forces in our society opposing the abolition of these practices, undaunted by a decree or a law that lacks either the will or ability of follow-up actions.

Advantages, disadvantages, origins of tribalism, and reasons of why it is so dominant in Jordan are all subjects that have also been beaten to death. It is not my intent to give a tutorial on the subject; my concern is with a way of life that has survived the modern social transformation Jordan has gone through, when it has at least started to recede in other neighbouring countries, particularly in such places as Saudi Arabia, where one would think tribal practices would be at their zenith.

Several opinions have tried to cite the recent elections in Jordan as an indication that tribalism is finally on its way out. Any such evidence is inconclusive at best. As a layman, I read all this analysis in the paper about the fall of tribalism, and then a few lines down I am confronted with three announcements on tribal "truces" to settle feuds. Then someone hurries to say that tribalism is dying in Jordan?

We are confronted with many arguments by those who do not wish to see an end to such practices, playing to the tune that Jordan cannot survive without tribalism, that in fact it is a "positive" force in society.

We are told that tribalism has many good merits, that should not be abolished by "modern" ideas which seek to destruct the family structure. We are told that generosity, coherence and care for the family are all by-products of the tribal structure.

While the argument plays skilfully to people's emotions, it fails to justify why the tribe should be the only source of "goodness" in society. The conviction that goodness can only trickle down to the individual from his tribe is very dangerous, leaving people with feelings of deep guilt anytime they want to get rid of the rigid tribal structure and its set ways. In other words, one should not see the denial of tribal practices as a condemnation of the family or an attempt to destruct it. It is simply a rejection of a structure that sets itself equal to, or even above, the law of the land.

We are told that the country is not ready to do away with tribal law, that it is one thing to decree a law but quite another to get it implemented. That argument bears many similarities to the argument we use with regard to democracy. Yes, the country is not ready to abolish tribal practices, and it never will be if people do not do anything about it. What is important is to agree on the need to abolish these practices, and the rest can come through an evolutionary process of education. It is important to realise that these are the eighties, not the twenties, not the fifties, not even the seventies. Great changes have occured since the State of Jordan was created. We have evolved from a desert confederacy of tribes to a modern country with a law and a constitution. If tribalism still has a place in the social context of affairs, it certainly should be denied any such place in our legal conceptualisation of the country. Jordanians cannot be governed by dual, often contradictory, laws.

We are told that belonging to the tribe is healthy because the tribe is part of the country. The problem is that to many, belonging to the tribe stops right there. I am not against belonging to the tribe as long as it is a part of a larger belonging to the country and the land.

This, to me, is the major argument against tribalism. I wish to see people proud because they are part of a professional organisation, not because they are members of a big tribe. I wish to see people proud because of their own personal achievements, not those of their cousins. And above all, I wish to see people proud because they are Jordanians, not only because of their surnames.

As one senator put it last week, tribalism is indeed an "obstacle in the path of our national security". It is an obstacle in the way of a healthy feeling of belonging to the country, with all the connotations this belonging has to offer.

This is the major question Jordanians have to answer in their minds. Should we continue to try to live with dual laws and dual allegiances, or should we reconcile the two in such a way that one is part of the other, but not equal to it? If we agree that allegiance to the land and the country is foremost, then we have to reevaluate our social structure such that all other allegiances fall within the context of one big allegiance.

This cannot be done overnight. One of the first things to reassess is our education system, where a tribal value system is constantly over-emphasised at the expense of a national sense of belonging. We learn more today in our schools about the great Arab poets 'Antara Ibn Shaddad and Umru' al-Qays, Al-Dawlah than we do about contemporary poets like Mustafa Wahbah al-Tal and Nazik al-Mala'ka.

One should never lose track of one's history, as long as one does not keep too embedded in it. We need not only learn about how our great-great-grandfathers lived, but also of the dreams our contemporary leaders had, and the visions we have of where our society should head.

It remains to be said that in the absence of political organisations through which citizens can channel their concerns, the tribe offers a secure haven to many who find in it a lobbying force to achieve certain aims. It very well could be that the process of "democratisation" is tightly knitted to that of "detribalisation" in Jordan. Both should be evolutionary in nature, both should be started on a systematic basis, and both require hard work on the part of the citizens and government alike. Both have one goal in mind, that in the end, all men and women, even though not born equal, should be treated as though they were, under the law, the one law.

Daily Links U.S. Aid to Israeli Withdrawal

JN300814 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "Washington Renews Its Commitment to Protect Israeli Policies"]

[Text] The first results of Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's visit to Washington shows that the United States hastily responded to Israel's military demands. Israel will be granted $1.8 billion as a military grant for the next fiscal year. This is in addition to the other financial and economic grants and aid which will not be discussed at this stage and which will exceed this figure, as well as hundreds millions of dollars in direct donations from U.S. citizens and societies given to Israel as aid for welfare and humanitarian reasons.

What attracts attention is that this aid, which is Israel's lifeline, comes under the pretext of defending U.S. interests and protecting U.S. friends in the region.

The U.S. secretary of defense believes that supplying Israel with arms and aid is the only way to protect U.S. interests in the

Middle East. He also believes that this aid, which is absolutely committed for Israel's expansions, wars, the consequences of its wars, and economic problems, does not constitute an escalation of the arms race in the region or a factor that obstructs peace moves in this part of the world.

It seems that this is the situation the Arabs will face during President Reagan's second administration, which behaves in light of the failure and the harm it faced as a superpower in Lebanon. Israel was able to employ the U.S. failures in Lebanon in the interest of the Israeli stand. Thus, Israel presented itself as the only party capable of protecting U.S. interests, it being the natural extension of U.S. policy in the region. Based on this logic, Israel is asking for the price of its withdrawal, which is inevitable due to the escalated Israeli losses in southern Lebanon.

Washington, which agreed to protect the Israeli invasion and supply it with political cover and military support, finds itself today forced to pay the price of that withdrawal. The United States adheres to the lie that Israel is defending its interests, although the United States itself and the entire world are convinced that Israeli policy is gambling with U.S. interests and influence in this part of the world for the sake of its ambitions, expansionist trend, and attempts to control and infilitrate the region.

The U.S. logic has not changed despite optimism created by a possible change in U.S. policy during President Reagan's second term. This means that in the coming stage the Arabs should exert collective and intensive efforts to bypass the clear harmony between the U.S. and Israeli stands. The huge U.S. aid to Israel not only constitutes a commitment to protect Israel, but also a commitment to the policy dictated by Israel in the region.

Briefs

Ambassadors Present Credentials — His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon the credentials of Dr Zainul Yasni, as Indonesian ambassador to the royal court. His majesty also received the credentials of Dr [Herwig Barklays), as FRG ambassador to the royal court. [Excerpt] [*Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Jan 85 JN*]

Israeli Forces Remove Installations in South

NC291322 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Israeli forces have completed the dismantling of their installations in Sayniq, south of Sidon, and have removed all their equipment and heavy weapons from the position. The Israeli forces dismantled their installations at the Al-Awwali crossing point, and removed their concrete bunkers. Several Israeli vehicles carrying barriers were seen leaving Al-Najmah Square on the Sidon-Jazzin road.

The Israelis also evacuated the Al-Dawudiyah Base, located between Al-Najjariyah and Al-Marwaniyah. Their departure this morning appeared permanent, as they stripped doors and windows from their buildings. The last shipment of dismantled Israeli equipment was seen loaded on a convoy of trucks. The shipment included some prefabricated structures and a huge crane. This group withdrew from the post at Mar Ilyas, and headed toward the Martyrs Square and the Boulevard Ma'ruf Sa'd in Sidon. The Israeli occupation forces had closed the road to facilitate their evacuation.

Lahd's militiamen have also begun dismantling their roadblocks in the Sidon area. Three trucks were used today to remove bunkers and barriers in [name indistinct] on the northern approach to Sidon and were headed south. This was part of the Lahd militia's withdrawal from Sidon and its suburbs.

Installations in South Dismantled

NC291814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent in the south this evening reported that the Israeli forces have started dismantling their installations in the (?Alman) camp, overlooking the Bisri area where a large helicopter airport is located. It has been learned that the Israeli forces will hand the camp over to Lahd's forces.

Our correspondent has spotted Israeli vehicles transporting equipment and logistic material on the Al-Zahrani road. Israeli trailers laden with M-116 armored personnel carriers and another 18 APC's and trucks were also seen passing on the Jazzin-Sidon road.

Further on Implementation of Security Plan

Palestinian Forces in Al-Kharrub

NC291257 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that a new group of Palestinian troops moved into the Al-Kharrub region through Dahr al-Baydar yesterday. According to a security source, some 2,000 Palestinians moved into the Al-Kharrub region, 'Alayh, and Bhamdun recently. Earlier today, we received reports that a group of armed Palestinians, who arrived in Al-Kharrub from Al-Biqa' last week, were spotted in Al-Na'imah.

Lebanese Forces Evacuate Al-Kharrub

NC291418 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1240 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A short while ago, Dr Jean Ghanim, the Lebanese Forces representative on the Security Committee, said he received some reliable information from the Al-Kharrub region. According to his reports, yesterday's decision by the Security Committee to evacuate the military positions along the Al-Kharrub battlelines has been implemented. Dr Ghanim confirmed that the positions held there by the Lebanese Forces and by the Progressive Socialist Party have been completely evacuated. This is particularly true of the frontline positions that once separated the coast from the central parts of Al-Kharrub.

Dr Ghanim lauded this positive step, and expressed hope that tangible measures would follow, leading to the complete implementation of the security plan for the coast and the central areas of Al-Kharrub.

30 January Cabinet Session Postponed

NC291747 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1742 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] We have just received the following: The Cabinet session scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed due to the absence of the prime minister, who is in Damascus.

Soviet Envoy Repeats Call for Israeli Withdrawal

NC301134 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov met with President al-Jumayyil at the Presidential Palace today. Following the meeting, the ambassador said that the Soviet Union firmly supports a unified and independent Lebanon, and supports all the measures taken to entrench Lebanese sovereignty. The ambassador added: I have reiterated the Soviet position which calls for an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in implementation of the UN resolutions.

Polish Official Arrives for 1-Week Visit

NC291534 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In response to an invitation by his eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the Mufti of the Lebanese Republic, (Lipcik Kamoka), Polish deputy minister for Cultural Affairs and Public Relations, and chairman of the Polish Friendship and Children Society, arrived in Beirut at 1330 today for a 1-week visit to Lebanon to inspect the Islamic cultural and social establishments operating under the auspices of Dar al-Fatwa.

Prime Minister Karami Continues Visit to Damascus

Received by Al-Asad

JN291625 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus —At 1400 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The meeting was attended by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'. The talks revolved around the situation in Lebanon in light of the recent developments, the efforts being exerted to achieve a withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces without delay, and dealing with the difficulties and obstacles obstructing the Lebanese march of liberation, security, and national detente.

Karami asserted Lebanon's determination to adhere to its national stands, work for the liberation of the Lebanese territories occupied by Israel, entrench security in the Lebanese areas, and to solve the economic difficulties which constitute another aspect of the continued conspiracies against Lebanon. Karami highly praised Syria's stand toward its twin brother, Lebanon, and its help to enable Lebanon to achieve its national objectives and overcome the obstacles facing it.

President Hafiz al-Asad asserted Syria's support for Lebanon and its determination to continue helping it liberate its territory from the Israeli occupation, without restrictions or conditions that harm its sovereignty and independence; to support Lebanon in its national detente march; to reinforce national unity and security; to rebuild the country; and to support its efforts to overcome difficulties and obstructing this march.

Karami, Khaddam, Al-Kasm, and Al-Shar' had lunch with the president.

At 1300 today, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Rashid Karami. The talks dealt with the situation and developments in the Lebanese arena and the cooperation between Syria and Lebanon to tackle difficulties emerging in that arena.

Meets With Khaddam

NC292050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Public Works and Transport Minister Walid Junblatt, and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar in his office in Damascus; the meeting ended at 2145. Colonel Simon Qassis, director of Lebanese Army Intelligence was summoned to the meeting while it was in progress. All issues pertaining to security in Lebanon, particularly in Beirut, the coast, and Iqlim al-Kharrub were discussed.

Our correspondent in Damascus will now report on tonights discussions.

[Begin recording] The meeting held at the office of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and attended by Prime Minister Rashid Karami, Public Works and Transport Minister Walid Junblatt, and Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar ended at 2145 Damascus time, 2045 Beirut time. Colonel Simon Qassis, director of Lebanese Army Intelligence was summoned to the meeting while it was in progress. All issues pertaining to security in Lebanon, particularly in Beirut, the coast, and Iqlim al-Kharrub were discussed.

On emerging from the meeting, Prime Minister Karami told reporters: The atmosphere was very good. Karami then spoke about the meeting saying: Our stay in Damascus tonight is very useful to the issues connected with the Lebanese situation for which we came, particularly the security situation in Beirut, the mountains, coast, and south. We came to resume the steps that we began but that stumbled for known reasons. We will meet at 1000 tomorrow with His Excellency Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in the presence of Salim al-Huss, Nabih Birri, and Walid Junblatt to resume discussion on these issues and all current Lebanese questions. What I can ascertain is that the atmosphere is positive and that there is a sincere intention to find solutions for all our problems.

Khaddam, Walid Junblatt, and Faruq al-Shar continued their meeting after Prime Minister Karami's departure. Members of the Democratic Front joined the conferees at 2200. An expanded meeting is now in progress to discuss the current issues in the Lebanese arena. Prime Minister Karami will spend the night at the Sheraton Hotel and will meet with Khaddam, Al-Huss, and Ministers Birri and Junblatt at 1000 tomorrow. [end recording]

Joint Syrian-USSR Communique Issued in Damascus

JN291723 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus — A joint communique was issued in Damascus today on the 21-28 January 1985 visit to the Syrian Arab Republic by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation led by Akil Salimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The communique points out that struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Republic, received the guest delegation. The guest delegation also met with Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party; Comrade 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the vice president, Comrade Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; and Comrade Faruq al-Shar', the minister of foreign affairs.

The guest delegation visited the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah and was briefed on the heinous brutal crimes perpetrated by the Zionist aggressors. The delegation also toured some governorates.

The guest delegation, led by Comrade Akil Salimov, held talks with the People's Assembly delegation, led by Comrade Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. The Syrian People's Assembly delegation acquainted the Soviet guest delegation with the economic, social, and cultural achievements reached in Syria under the corrective movement, particularly following the Seventh Regional Congress

of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the decisions adopted by the Ba'th Party Central Committee meetings. The guest delegation was also briefed on the results of the Eighth Regional Congress of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, which aimed at continuing economic, social, and cultural developments in Syria, reinforcing Syria's political course against imperialism and Zionism; and at confronting imperialist and Zionist schemes in the region.

The communique asserts both sides' concern over the current situation in the Middle East. It says: The continuation of tension in the region is the result of the hostile U.S. and Zionist policy, particularly after they reached their agreement of strategic alliance. The escalating U.S. military presence in the region aims at imposing U.S. hegemony over the Middle East, and at continuing the policy of expansion and aggression practiced by the Zionist entity.

The communique condemns the hostile U.S. and Zionist policy and the continuation of the Zionist occupation of Arab territories. The communique also condemns all attempts to impose capitulatory solutions and separate deals aimed at fragmenting the Arab ranks. It also condemns the Zionist occupation of Lebanese territory, and calls for immediate and unconditional Zionist withdrawal from Lebanon. The communique asserts that the Lebanese cause can only be solved by maintaining Lebanon's territorial integrity, the unity of its people, its independence and sovereignty, and by achieving national detente. The communique says: The abrogation of the agreement is considered a great achievement for the Arab nation. The communique asserts the need to continue joint action in order to achieve a just and firm peace in the Middle East based on total, unconditional Zionist withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories , and to realize the Palestinian people's firm national rights, including their rights to self-determination and to establish an independent state on their soil. The communique points out the pressing need to reinforce the progressive and patriotic forces that are hostile to imperialism in the region , in order to support the Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism and to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

The communique adds: The Syrian People's Assembly delegation asserts its support for the USSR's peaceful course to reinforce international peace and security. It also highlights the important suggestions on using airspace only for peaceful purposes which the USSR presented at the 39th UN General Assembly session. The Syrian delegation showed its interest in the agreement reached, as a result of a USSR initiative, to hold talks with the United States on issues related to space and nuclear arms. The communique expresses Syria's support for the Soviet proposals on settling the situation in the Middle East, and on holding an international conference under UN supervision to this effect.

The communique says: The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation highly praised Syria's principled policy toward the curent issues in the Middle East, and its just struggle against the Zionist aggression. The Soviet delegation asserts its support for the just Arab causes for which Syria and the Arab nation struggle against imperialist and Zionist schemes in the region.

In conclusion, the communique expresses the Soviet delegation's appreciation for the heartfelt reception and hospitality that the delegation was accorded throughout its visit to Syria.

Peres Calls on Jordan to Make Peace

TA291935 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has again called on Jordan to make peace with Israel. Peres was speaking today to a group of Bedouin notables in the Negev. He said that Israel will make every effort to bring peace to the entire area, to solve the Lebanese problem, and to reach an understanding with Egypt.

This is the first time that an Israeli prime minister has visited the Bedouin.

Peres praised Israel's Bedouin for their contributions in times of peace and war. Accompanying Peres on his visit was Cabinet Minister 'Ezer Weizman, who is charged with Arab affairs in the country. Weizman promised that there would be direct and full cooperation between the Bedouin community and the Prime Minister's Office.

NEQUDA Reports Secret Talks With Jordan

TA300719 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 30 Jan 85 p 3

[Text] Tel Aviv — Israel is conducting secret talks with Jordan and half the Cabinet is kept in the dark about it, according to a memorandum published in *NEQUDA*, the organ of Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The memorandum was written by the Society for Renewing Jewish Settlement in Hebron. "It is no secret that there are secret contacts — with the Jordanians and other international sources — involving plans to end Jewish rule over Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza, the memorandum reported.

Talks With Egypt Over Future of Tabah Conclude

TA291724 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1710 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The Beersheba talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations on Tabah have ended. A joint communique was issued at the end of the talks, saying that the bilateral talks will continue, and that the gaps on certain matters pertaining to the MFO's role — if and when it is asked to enter the Tabah region — have been narrowed. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a is on the telephone from the Desert Inn Hotel:

[Begin recording] [Barne'a] Anyone who is in Tabah tomorrow will be able to continue to enjoy the sunshine there, as no change will take place in Tabah's status as a result of the talks that have been held over the past 3 days here in Beersheba.

The joint communique issued by the three delegations stated that the delegations exchanged opinions and documents, and transmitted drafts that will be passed on to the various governments. Matters will continue to be deliberated. The gaps, as we have heard, have been narrowed in everything related to the role the MFO will have to fulfill, if and when it is asked to enter the area. This is how the head of the Israeli delegation, Tzvi Qedar, summed things up:

[Qedar — in English, picked up in midsentence] ... and discussed problems, and we have reached agreement on certain problems. That means — and you could understand from this — that we are in the middle, or maybe not in the middle — I wouldn't put it exactly in the middle — but we are somewhere still in discussion. So perhaps we will leave it then for the second stage and round, and after that we will produce something round and complete.

[Barne'a translates the above and continues] The Egyptians, for their part in the talks, raised their demand that the entire dispute over Tabah be turned over to international arbitration for resolution. When 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, the head of the Egyptian delegation, was asked how this Egyptian demand relates to Egypt's agreement to continue to discuss, what in effect amounts to technical matters, he replied:

[Badawi — in English] As a matter of fact, we were here concerned with the implementation of the agreements of 25th of April [1982] which contain several elements.

[Barne'a translates the above and continues] Thus, in the concluding communique, too, there was frequent reference to the April 1982 agreement, signed before Israel evacuated the Sinai, before the Sinai was returned to Egyptian sovereignty. In short, nothing will change in Tabah. Gaps concerning the MFO may have been bridged somewhat, and the talks will continue — although no one knows exactly when. [end recording]

Spokesman Sums Up Talks

TA291827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] At the end of 3 days of negotiations on the Tabah border dispute, Israeli and Egyptian delegations say they have narrowed their differences on the role and functions that the multinational force will be asked to perform in the Sinai border areas. Details on the final communique and the joint news conference in Beersheba from reporter Ruth Blaukopf:

[Begin recording] [Blaukopf] Tonight's joint communique comes at the end of 3 days of clearly delicate negotiations. The daily exchange of working papers seems at last, however, to have yielded at least limited results. They were summed up before a packed press room at the Beersheba negotiation venue by Foreign Ministry Deputy Spokesman Ehud Gol:

[Gol] During the meeting, the delegations discussed in detail the role and function which the MFO will be asked to perform in the Tabah and other areas in question. They exchanged just proposals on this subject. In the course of these exchanges, they narrowed their differences of view. A draft to be submitted to their respective governments was prepared, setting out points on which the two delegations could agree on the MFO functions, pending agreement on points which are still unresolved. They expect that this draft will provide the basis for continuing discussions, with a view to reaching final agreements on the implementation of the April 25th, 1982 agreement

[Blaukopf] The achievement therefore, of this 3-day session is twofold — some rapprochement on the question of the multinational force and the clear decision to maintain dialogue. Precisely what forum, date, and venue such dialogue will have was not defined, but Israeli delegation head Tzvi Qedar affirmed joint intentions to continue talking:

[Qedar] Of course we'll be holding talks in the future, to continue our discussions, in the same friendly and spirit of goodwill that was expressed here by everybody who took part in our meeting. [sentence as heard] And in this spirit, we will continue.

[Blaukopf] Does this goodwill characterize the Egyptian approach? And if so, does it signal an end to the chill in Israeli-Egyptian relations? Egypt's delegation head, Ambassador Badawi:

[Badawi] To start with, I am rather averse to sweeping statements about chill and so forth. Second, we are conducting a dialogue, and we hope that the dialogue will be successful.

[Blaukopf] Throughout the 3 days, despite the accessibility of the Israeli delegation, neither they nor the less-accessible Egyptians, nor the exceedingly low-profile Americans have given any sense of substantive agreements. The sovereignty issue remains unresolved, as does the Egyptian demand for arbitration. Humanitarian issues raised by Israel have not received any clear answer. Both sides say they will activate diplomatic channels on these questions, and this signals perhaps the only significant outcome of these talks. The Egyptian-Israeli dialogue remains problematic and precarious, but it continues. [end recording]

Gilbo'a: Katyusha Attacks Will Continue

TA291359 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1355 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Brigadier General 'Amos Gilbo'a, the head of the Israeli delegation to the Al-Naqurah talks, believes that after the withdrawal of the IDF, the terrorists will have an interest in returning to the evacuated area, and that we can expect katyusha attacks and infiltration of terrorists. Brig Gen 'Amos Gilbo'a — who addressed members of the Haifa Bar association — emphasized, however, that the establishment of a terrorist infrastructure in the area to be evacuated by the IDF will take a few years. This was reported by our correspondent Qobi Mandel.

IDF Completing Evacuation of Positions on Al-Awwali

TA291129 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The IDF is completing the evacuation of its positions along the Al-Awwali. Bulldozers have already destroyed most of the positions, and now the debris is being prepared to be blown up. In Sidon, the evacuation of construction equipment and other heavy equipment has been completed. The officer in charge of the evacuation told our correspondent that it is no longer important whether UNIFIL or the Lebanese Army will receive some of the IDF positions, as the evacuation is almost over and the IDF does not have anything to hand over.

IDF Force Crosses Al-Awwali

TA291902 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] An IDF force today crossed the Al-Awwali River and traveled for 2 hours along the coastal road in territory held by the Lebanese Army. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that this is the first time that an IDF force has acted north of the Al-Awwali since the Lebanese Army arrived in the area. Military sources emphasized tonight that this is routine IDF activity meant to prevent attacks.

Socialist International's Willy Brandt Arrives

TA291849 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1620 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Ben-Gurion Airport, 29 Jan (ITIM) — Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, who heads the Social Democratic Party in his country, arrived this afternoon for a 5-day visit to Israel, and was greeted at the airport by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who welcomed him warmly.

"We welcome you as a great leader and as a great friend of our country, and as my personal friend," said Mr Peres, who serves as vice president of the Socialist International, which is headed by Mr Brandt.

Mr Brandt will meet Foreign Minister and Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Histadrut Secretary General Yisra'el Qeysar, a MAPAM delegation, and Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj.

Answering questions, he said that Israeli-German relations have improved in many areas. However, the German Government could have added more links to this chain, not only in the bilateral sphere, but also in relations between Israel and the EEC.

The German politician was also asked whether the Socialist International could help to solve the problems in Lebanon, and to achieve an arrangement between Israel and Jordan and in the whole region. He answered that he wants to study the situation better, and that the better he understands the situation, the more it would help him during discussion on the problems of the area and on peace in the Middle East, and that therefore he wants to study as much as he can.

David Levi Returns From Mexico, U.S.

TA291621 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Ben-Gurion Airport, 29 Jan (ITIM) — Deputy prime Minister David Levi returned today from a visit to Mexico and the United States on a mission for the Jewish Foundation Fund. Speaking to reporters at Ben-Gurion Airport, he said that as far as the package deal is concerned, one should not expect solutions at the wave of a magic wand.

While on a Jewish Foundation Fund mission in Mexico, Mr Levi conferred with the vice president and his counterpart. They discussed mutual cooperation. These talks helped bolster bilateral relations, and Mr Levi invited the vice president to Israel, although no date has yet been set for that visit. With his

Mexican counterpart, he discussed cooperation in various areas, including information exchange on methods of industrialized construction for the purpose of building housing projects.

Knesset Committee Endorses Package Deal

TA291932 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Four days prior to the expiration of the first package deal, and at the end of seven sessions, the Knesset Finance Committee today endorsed the law on economic stability, stipulating that the package deal and its conditions are legal. The committee also approved a 4 percent levy on the self-employed; the finance minister, however, will be permitted to exempt certain people after obtaining the committee's approval.

Weizman Proposes Committee on Arab Affairs

TA291923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Minister 'Ezer Weizman is proposing the establishment of an interministerial committee, to be headed by him, which would coordinate the treatment of Israeli Arabs. Alongside this committee, there would be an advisory committee with the participation of representatives from the Arab sector. According to the recommendations presented to the prime minister, the position of adviser on Arab affairs would be abolished, and the *AL-ANBA'* newspaper would be closed down due to its losses and its image as a newspaper sponsored by the government. Our correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that in a discussion in the Knesset concerning this suggestion, the Alignment and left-wing members supported Weizman's positions, whereas the Likud and right-wing members firmly rejected them.

Morning Press on USSR Mideast Involvement, VOA

TA300828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 30 Jan 85

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *DAVAR* says that Israel certainly has no reason to object to the easing of regional tensions between the two superpowers and their negotiations in this context. On the contrary, this can only be for the good. Another question is whether Moscow has anything to contribute to a solution, or even a mollification, of the disputes in this area. The Reagan administration believes that Syria is the common enemy of the United States and Israel in the peace process. Without removing the threat it poses to Jordan, this peace process cannot be realized. Even today the Soviet Union cannot impose this on Hafiz al-Asad. Israel certainly has good reasons for objecting to a Middle East peace conference with the participation of the Soviet Union. The chances of making progress toward peace in this framework are slimmer than in any other. Furthermore, this proposal is unacceptable at a time when Moscow, which severed its relations with Israel 18 years ago, is displaying an extremely hostile attitude toward it, which sometimes assumes the form of fervent anti-Semitic incitement. Let us hope that the United States takes this impediment into consideration when it resumes its dialogue with the Soviet Union on the Middle East.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the resumption of relations with the Soviet Union are not less, but more vital to us than to the Soviet Union itself. It would therefore be better if we refrain from fanning the Soviet Union's hostility. During his talks with Shultz, the defense minister attempted to secure a commitment that the United States would refrain from, including the Soviet Union in possible arrangements in the Middle East. We can understand the fears concerning Moscow's stand on issues vital for the existence of our country, but we cannot ignore the fact that we cannot reach a final arrangement in the region without Moscow's cooperation at a certain stage.

HA'ARETZ says that the argument that the stationing of a VOA relay station may worsen Moscow's attitude toward its Jews is indeed very weighty. However, we know from past experience that Soviet Jews are also persecuted without any VOA relay station being stationed here. Jewish emigration is a consequence of relations between both superpowers and is not in the least affected by what Israel is or is not doing. If the government is interested in reciprocal relations with the United States and does not want to appear ungrateful, it should not take this renewed U.S. request lightly.

Resignation of Jordanian Information Minister Viewed

Jerusalem Arabic on Resignation

JN291735 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1435 GMT 29 Jan 85

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] The nature of Jordanian Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf's resignation yesterday sheds light not only on the problems of the Jordanian news media, but also on the nature of the Jordanian regime. However, her resignation does not reveal any secrets or disclose anything new and unknown about the news media and the ruling regime in Jordan. It is well known that Mrs Sharaf tendered her resignation yesterday, less than 24 hours after King Husayn's public letter to his Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, in which he instructed 'Ubaydat to tighten control over the Jordanian press.

Mrs Sharaf was careful in making sure that the text of her letter of resignation got to the Jordanian news media. The motives behind her resignation, as she herself indicated, and as can be understood from her letter of resignation, can be summed up in two main points:

1. Her protest against tightening the noose on the remaining freedom of expression and opinion left for the Jordanian press;

2. Her constant disapproval of the policy of misguidance in the media, as well as the policy of government-guided media, a policy based on subservience to the government and the spontaneous glorification of every step and decision taken by King Husayn and his government.

There is no doubt that Mrs Layla Sharaf's resignation sheds light in a dramatic manner on the problems of the press and freedom —freedom that is almost nonexistent not only in Jordan, but also in the overwhelming majority of the Arab countries, if not in all of them. It may be said that the basic problem lies in the absence of a democratic heritage and the principles of a free democracy in the Arab countries and their ruling regimes.

This analysis is correct, but it does not reflect the whole truth. What is also true is that the Arab rulers deprive the press of freedom of expression and criticism regarding all that is connected to them and their regimes. In return, what they grant the press is an absolute freedom to lie and fabricate in all matters related to Israel and its people. We are not sidestepping facts when we say that the masters of the Jordanian and Arab news media know no limit to the circulation of demagogic falsehoods, and both vile and absurd lies against Israel and its people. What is worse, and even more tragic, is that some writers in the Jordanian news media in particular, and the Arab media in general, exploit religion and religious occasions not only to propagate cheap lies and vile falsehoods against Israel and the Jewish people in general, but also to spread the poisons of hatred and ill will between the Arab and Jewish peoples.

Such writers, who falsely claim to be serving the press and its noble mission, do not only commit the sin of hateful lies, but also distort the nature and teachings of their religion and desecrate its mission whose essence conforms with the essence of the heavenly religions that call for toleration and fraternity among peoples and nations.

Finally, we say that if King Husayn complained in his letter to the prime minister of the Jordanian press' distortion of facts, then he and other Arab rulers should realize that first, the circulation of lies and falsehoods against Israel by the Arab news media is one of the basic reasons for the Arab news media'sloss of credibility by the Arab peoples and the world at large; and second that the one who teaches his son or student to lie to others will sooner or later have his son or student lie to him.

AL-ANBA' on Sharaf Resignation

JN300710 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 30 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Daring Precedent," *AL-ANBA'* says: The reason behind the resignation of Mrs Layla Sharaf, Jordanian information minister and wife of the former Jordanian prime minister, the late 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, is daring and positive precedent in the modern history of Jordan, and may be of other Arab countries, because it affirms a fact which many people in the region try to obliterate. The fact is that establishing democratic rule based on freedom of expression is not the demand of the masses and parties only, but also the demand of enlightened elements participating in the rule.

The newspaper adds: Although it is being said that the resignation was due to differences in interpretations between King Husayn and his cousin, the husband of the resigning information minister, it seems that Mrs Layla Sharaf, like her husband and all intellectuals in the Arab countries, believe that freedom of expression is the required star to light the path before the Arab people to solve their problems and to entrench the bases of peace necessary to reach a solution.

Concluding, *AL-ANBA'* says: What we want to assert is that Jordan will inevitably walk the path of peace, that the freedom of expression, for which Mrs Layla Sharaf resigned, is capable of removing obstacles and levelling the path, and that those who believe that freedom of expression ends by rejection and extremism are mistaken. This is because the majority of people in the region want peace, and because dictatorship alone can make the voice of rejection and extremism louder than the voice of peace.

Bagaza Opens EEC-ACP Committee Meeting in Burundi
EA291637 Bujumbura Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Excerpts] President of the Republic Colonel Jean Baptiste Bagaza yesterday solemnly opened the joint committee of the EEC-ACP [African-Caribbean-Pacific] consultative assembly meeting, which includes representatives from 65 ACP countries and an equal number of European lawmakers. In his opening speech, President Bagaza paid tribute to the parliaments and governments of the represented countries and to all those who, due to their flexible sense of compromise and attachment to international cooperation, contributed to the renewal of the Lome convention.

[Begin Bagaza recording] Cochairmen of the EEC-ACP joint committee, Mr President of the EEC Council of Ministers, Mr President of the ACP Council of Ministers, ministers, peoples representatives, members of the diplomatic and consular corps, ladies and gentlemen: On this day, when the eminent representatives of the ACP and EEC are meeting in Bujumbura on the occasion of the EEC-ACP joint committee meeting, I would like, on behalf of the Burundian people, the Unity for National Progress Party, the Government of the Republic of Burundi, and on my own behalf, to wish all the participants a very cordial welcome to Burundi. Our dearest wish is that you should feel at home among (?others).

We congratulate, in particular, Mr Lorenzo Natali, the new European Commissioner in charge of development, who will henceforth deal with the difficult but nonetheless exalting task of implementing the measures adopted by the new convention. I am sure that he can be assured of your support and of our determination to work for the success of EEC-ACP cooperation.

We also take this opportunity to salute Mozambique's recent joining of the convention. We express our hope that we will soon see Angola joining our great family.

In addition to the hunger problem, the gravity of which you are aware, other major constraints face the developing countries. The world price of some cash crops, which could have promoted the prosperity of some of the poor countries, have collapsed. Some prices have fallen to the lowest level in half a century. I deplored the situation at the Franco-African summit a month ago. The Third World countries are burdened by ever increasing debts.

Agricultural production will perish if it is not adequately linked to other sectors of the economy, particularly industry. Thus, it is imperative to undertake the transformation of agricultural, energy, and mineral natural resources locally. This necessity is acknowledged and written in the resolutions of Lome III. That is the most certain way toward the self-development recommended by the new convention. We also hope that the resolutions of the new convention concerning investments will encourage capital holders to become interested in industrial sectors within the ACP countries.

Cochairmen, ladies and gentlemen: It would be tedious to review all the chapters of the new convention, which are quite familiar to you. It is enough for me to say that Lome III protects the gains of our cooperation and opens some new perspectives. Nobody can doubt the links between ACP and Europe, historic and geographical links that have been strengthened by our determination to cooperate and live together. This interdependence and respect for each other's sovereignty will be strengthened and will be productive, thanks to the continuing consultation which is indispensable to any joint enterprise.

Let us push forward with a determination and desire that are always linked with lasting deeds. It is with these words that I declare this EEC-ACP joint committee meeting open and express best wishes for success in your work. Thank you. [applause] [end recording]

Delegations Arrive for OAU Liberation Meeting
AB300930 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] More heads of delegations to the OAU Liberation Committee meeting now taking place in Accra contine to arrive. They are the Mozambican vice foreign minister, Mr Carlos (Lobo); the Zambian minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Musuka; and Mr (Muftah Madre), a member of the Libyan Popular Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau.

Speaking to newsmen, the Mozambica vice minister said his country sees the liberation of South Africa and Namibia as the most important issue now facing the continent. He said his country is more concerned with the liberation struggle because coming from southern Africa, they have first-hand information about the atrocities of the apartheid regime. Mr (Lobo) said this is why they are here to help formulate positive strategies to liberate Africa. He asked supporters of the apartheid system who claim to be champions of human rights to reexamine their consciences.

The member of the Libyan Popular Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau described the current liberation meeting as the final meeting to gather momentum for the liberation of Namibia and South Africa. Mr (Madre) said his country does not restrict liberation to Africa alone, but to all oppressed peoples still under colonialism.

The Zambian minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Musaka, described the whole of Africa as constituting the frontline states. He said South Africa is still occupying parts of Angola with continuous inhumane treatments. He said bandits and rebels are being used to disturb the Frontline States, and what is needed is dedication, determination, and proper commitment for total liberation.

ALGERIA

Foreign Minister Briefs President on Tunisian Visit

LD301141 Algiers APS in English 1022 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Algiers, 30/1 (APS) — President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic, FLN Party secretary general, audienced here on Tuesday Mr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Politburo member, minister of foreign affairs, who briefed him on the visit he paid to Tunisia as a special envoy carrying a message from the president of the Republic to President Habib Bourguiba.

PLO's Abu Jihad Confers With FLN Officials

LD290947 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Algiers, 29 Jan (APS) — The deputy commander in chief of the Palestine revolution forces, Abu Jihad, arrived in Algeria yesterday. He was welcomed at the airport by members of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee for Foreign Relations and the PLO representative in Algeria.

In a statement to the press, Abu Jihad said that during his visit he will review developments in the Palestine arena with Algerian officials. He will also discuss the conditions in which the Palestine people are living in the occupied territory and the efforts that should be exerted to foil the designs of the Israeli enemy.

Abu Jihad affirmed that armed struggle was the only option open to the Palestine people to retrieve their land and establish their state under the leadership of the PLO.

LIBYA

Demonstrations Condemn U.S. 'Provocative' Maneuvers

LD292344 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Angry popular demonstrations were staged Tuesday throughout the Jamahiriyah denouncing the provocative maneuvers conducted by the American 6th Fleet inside Egyptian territorial waters northeast of Tubruq. Demonstrators carried slogans denouncing the acts of terror undertaken by the American Government, affirming the preparedness of the Libyan Arab people to face up to all acts of aggression.

Masses of the people's congresses in various parts of the Jamahiriyah have emphasized their permanent readiness to carry out the order to die for the homeland in defense of their freedom, the people's power, and the achievements reached through the Great Fateh Revolution in various areas of life.

U.S. Fleet Maneuvers Scored

LD300008 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpts] This is not the first time the imperialist U.S. has massed its nuclear strike fleet off the Libyan Arab coast. It is also not the first time the American 6th Fleet multi-purpose aircraft have undertaken flagrant provocations inside the Tripoli aviation information zone under orders issued by the American fleet command.

As a matter of fact, during the last few years, the American administration has provoked such saber-rattling which resembles summer thunder: violent but only intimidating the weak-spirited and those prone to hallucinations. American acts of terror have thus become familiar even though they constitute the highest degree of provocation, despite the fact that they are done only by arrogant tyrants.

America has committed acts of terroism against us and all other peace- and freedom-loving forces far out of proportion to anything likely to preserve its prestige as a great power, and far more than allowed by its supposed role as an international power with increased responsibilities concerning the principle of preserving world peace. Yet each time it undertakes such provocative and reckless insanities, America comes out of the whole exercise empty-handed, reaping nothing. Moreover, it comes out with a blacker face, tarnished with condemnation and incrimination.

Why at specific times does the American administration make the decision to undertake comprehensive or partial maneuvers off the Libyan coast or in an area adjacent to Libyan territory? These maneuvers come under various flashy names ranging from "Falling Star" [as heard] to "Sea Winds," etc. Any observer can see that each of the American maneuvers held in recent years has coincided with the emergence of a stormy crisis in one or all the American-molded or entirely American-created regimes, such as the artificial Zionist entity in occupied Arab Palestine. We can clearly see this if we observe the coincidence in timing between the crises of these regimes and the American maneuvers.

The second observation one can easily make is that every time a crisis engulfs an American pawn in the region, America hurriedly sends its fleet to areas adjacent to the Jamahiriyah's territorial waters or territory in a blatant attempt to engage in intimidation under the pretext that the Jamahiriyah is the instigator behind such crises shaking the stability of ruling regimes. The truth is that the Jamahiriyah is indeed playing the role of an instigator, but not in order to interfere in other people's affairs. It stands for a free society for the masses, at the sight of which the oppressed masses would take to the path of revolution.

SRV Delegation Begins Talks With Officials

LD291919 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1812 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Jan (JANA) — Libyan-Vietnamese talks began in Tripoli this morning to strengthen cooperation between the two friendly countries. The talks were attended by the secretary of the General People's Committee for Justice, and the secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industries. On the Vietnamese side it was attended by General Giap, Vietnamese deputy prime minister, and the accompanying delegation. Furthermore, a comittee of experts from both sides held a meeting this evening and discussed ways of promoting cooperation between the two countries in various domains.

Cultural Agreement With Hungary Signed

LD292136 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 29 Jan [JANA]— The program for implementing the cultural agreement between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the People's Republic of Hungary was signed today. The program includes cooperation in the areas of general education, higher and university education, scientific research, culture, archaeology, information, and the exchange of technical expertise and data.

Anti-Libyan Restrictions in Britain Denounced

LD291848 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Debate is expected to heighten in the British Government's lobbies regarding the obduracy of the British Home Office and its refusal to accept the proposals by the British Foreign Office to loosen restrictions imposed upon the Libyan students and the Libyans seeking medical treatment there.

The British Foreign Office's advisers suggested loosening restrictions imposed on the Libyan students in Britain and the citizens of Jamahiriyah who are seeking medical treatment there. The British Foreign Office suggested that the Libyans should be allowed to enter Britain quickly. As the *SUNDAY TELE GRAPH* pointed out, the British Home Office and its immigration officers do not display sufficient understanding on these proposals. According to the same newspaper this is a matter which created a conflict between the British Foreign Office and the British Home Office. Further details are reported:

The *SUNDAY TELEGRAPH's* political correspondent places the responsibility for this dispute on the obduracy of the Home Secretary in Mrs Thatcher's government, Leon Brittan. A recent report in the newspaper detailed the continuing argument in the British Government's headquarters due to the Home Office Immigration Department's refusal to consider the proposals and advice of the British Foreign Office concerning the entry of Libyan citizens into Britain and the relaxation of unjust restraints on those residing there for study or medical treatment.

It is known that efforts in this direction were promised by the Anglican Church of Canterbury through its envoy to the Jamahiriyah, the clergyman Terry Waite. He met the brother leader of the revolution, spoke at one of the people's conferences in Tripoli, and met with some relatives of Libyans now residing in Britain in an attempt to secure the release of four Britons detained in the Jamahiriyah for legal and security violations. Although nothing was mentioned in this respect, the British Foreign Office's stand on relaxing the restrictions imposed on the Libyans in Britain and allowing Libyans to travel to Britain came, perhaps, as a result of overtures made by the Church of Canterbury to the British Government. Notwithstanding the correctness of this analysis, the British Foreign Office's conclusion seems to reflect the interests of the British people in developing its relations with the Arab Libyan people and conferring on them the character of friendship and cooperation and removing them from the pressures of the anti-Jamahiriyah circles and governments, mainly Zionism and American imperialism.

According to the *SUNDAY TELEGRAPH*, which said the ministry's request was more of a suggestion, it is possible to proceed if the Foreign Office hardens its posture toward the obduracy of the Home Office officials. Foremost among these is Leon Brittan, known for his racism and anti-Arab inclinations, who perpetuates his loyalty to Judaism and his links with the Zionist entity, while disregarding the real interests of the British people. This matter is extremely harmful to the British,not only on a sentimental level, but also in actual spheres of cooperation, whether with the Jamahiriyah or with other Arab countries. These countries also do not conceal their sensitivity about Britain's anti-Arab statements whenever terrorist elements carry out an operation inside Britain and whenever he and his colleagues fail to foil an attack by the Irish Republican Army.

It appears that the British home secretary makes the Arabs in Britain a scapegoat for his repeated failure to resist the rising crime wave in the country. Hence, Brittan's selfishness and his lack of consideration for the interests of the British become apparent, a matter which bodes evil consequences for Thatcher's government.

MOROCCO

Niger Foreign Minister Received by King

LD291549 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II this afternoon received at the royal palace in Marrakech Niger Foreign Minister Ide Oumarou. The meeting was attended by the Moroccan minister of foreign affairs, Dr Abdelouahed Belkaziz, and Mr Ahmed Guedira, his majesty's adviser.

SUDAN

Two Sudanese Defect From SPLA Camps in Ethiopia

JN291900 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Juba, Sudan, Jumada Awal 8, Jan 29 (SUNA) — Two citizens have given up themselves to the Equatoria Region authorities after escaping from the military camps of the so-called Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) based inside Ethiopia.

One of the escapees, student Samson Sappana Jambo said he and his colleagues were victims of deceit. We were given bright hopes of continuing our studies in aviation engineering and other sciences in the Soviet Union and East Germany, he said. Jambo, who had belonged to the outlaw Sindiya (Forcefull) Battalion, affirmed that the training camps were actually inside Ethiopian territories where the outlaws are armed and sent into the Sudan on destructive missions.

He said the outlaws have disappointed many of those who had joined them and who further realized that the so-called Liberation Army was only a tribal movement dominated by the tribe of the runaway agent John Garang. Jambo indicated the outlaws

were engaged in widespread criminal activities and rape on the citizens.

The second escapee, Salah Paul Kalisto, who ran away from the outlaws (Thunder) Battalion, told the Sudan News Agency that 24 Equatoria Region's citizens his former battalion have decided to escape and disappointment as many induced to join the outlaws with promises. [sentence as received]

A great number of outlaws are on their way to surrender to the Equatoria authorities because the People's Armed Forces victories against the outlaws during operations in which fierce battles were fought demoralized them especially as they suffered heavy losses, Kalisto affirmed.

Committee on Ethiopian Refugee Influx Set Up

JN300640 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, Jumadi Awal 8, Jan 29 (SUNA) — The People's Assembly today decided to set up a fact finding committee to inquire about the influx of great number of Ethiopians not affected by drought in the Sudan.

Member Ibrahim Ahmad 'Umar, who suggested the formation of this committee, said the influx rate of the Ethiopian refugees was raised in the few last days to 5 thousand refugees per day and the majority of them are youths.

He added that he would not rule out that among those refugees there are trained elements sent by the Ethiopian regime to implement sabotage inside the country. The issue of the Ethiopian refugees was then put forward for debate. The members confirmed that Sudan has become a goal for some plotting powers due to its new Islamic orientation and Ethiopia is one of those powers.

The members added that there is an Ethiopian conspiracy aiming at fighting all those who rejected Marxism either inside their country or by kicking them out to the Sudanese territory which could be described as the most dangerous weapon to be used against Sudan. The members went on saying that Ethiopia is alleging that Sudan is occupying some of its lands and this exodus might be a conspiracy to create an Ethiopian entity inside Sudan so as to be used in the future as a means of pressure for this claim.

500 Ugandan Refugees To Be Repatriated

JN292111 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Juba, Sudan, Jumadi Awal 8, Jan 29 (SUNA) — 500 Ugandan refugees will be repatriated to their country in the few coming weeks after choosing to do so on their own free will, the refugees commissioner in the south Alexander Nejib announced today. He added that measures on these refugees home return is proceeding smoothly.

WESTERN SAHARA

Statement Issued on U.S.-Moroccan Maneuvers

LD300929 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The Saharan Ministry of Information yesterday published a statement reiterating the warnings it made in 1975 about all the territory of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, including its territorial waters being a war zone. This statement followed the discovery on 21 January of the body of a Belgian national inside an aircraft shot down by the forces of the Saharan People's Liberation Army.

The statement asked two questions. The first is: Is Morocco using mercenaries in its aggressive war against the Saharan people; and the second question is: Has the king of Morocco deluded the foreigners that his forces are in control of the situation in the Western Sahara and that they can carry out economic and tourist explorations? The statement once more warned all foreigners against wandering inside the Saharan territory.

On the other hand the statement pointed out that Morocco and the United States are carrying out joint military maneuvers at the mouth of Drawadi between the towns of Tantan and [word indistinct]. The statement stressed that these maneuvers are taking place in the border region close to the Western Sahara and are arousing increasing anxiety.

ETHIOPIA

Foreign Ministry Statement Condemns External Plotters

EA291859 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
1700 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that unless those countries which participated in a recently conducted plot against Ethiopia ceased their acts of enmity and conspiracy immediately, Socialist Ethiopia will be forced to take the necessary steps for her well-being and to preserve her territorial integrity.

In its statement, the ministry disclosed that the Government of Socialist Ethiopia has called on the countries who participated in this deed to refrain from their illegal and criminal act aimed at Ethiopia.

In addition, it announced that the Government of Socialist Ethiopia has asked them to respect Ethiopia's freedom, unity, and territorial integrity and that it has reaffirmed its readiness to foil the recently conducted plot against the country.

The statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is as follows:

On the pretext of the drought calamity that has hit two-thirds of the African Continent, including the country, the blind action of the Sudanese Government over the past few months to preserve its own interests is an open secret. It falsely announced that large numbers of refugees are flooding over the country's borders and it has used humanitarian aid as a cloak for a massive build-up of arms and materiel from its usual former [as heard] sources and has been passing them on to groups of terrorist bandits who are opposed to Ethiopia's unity and territorial integrity.

In addition, the refugee camps in Sudan have currently become suitable places for these terrorist bandit groups to recruit youths to promote their reactionary aims.

As a report by the Sudanese news agency revealed in its attempt to strengthen reactionary and expansionist forces in the Red Sea region, the Sudanese Government recently played host to groups of terrorist bandits at the Grand Hotel in Khartoum.

This anti-Ethiopian plot perpetrated by the Sudanese Government, in collaboration with the Government of Israel, [and] events shortly after its facilitation of the transportation of Ethiopian citizens across its borders to Israel, demonstrates without any doubt that Khartoum is interfering in Ethiopia's internal affairs on a large scale.

The [actions of] Sudan's collaborators and henchmen in this anti-Ethiopian coalition, especially those of Saudi Arabia aimed at dividing this ancient country which has remained unified throughout its history, confirms the plots of the Sudanese Government against Ethiopia.

The plans said to have been presented by governments of Arab countries that participated in the meeting show that the support given to Ethiopia's territorial integrity by, in addition to Sudan and Saudia Arabia, Iraq, Syria, and Morocco is just pitiful lip service.

The other thing not clear in this event is the role of the PLO, which has been revealed as a participant in this anti-Ethiopian plot.

It is abundantly clear that from the outset, the banditry in northern Ethiopia has been planned and organized by Sudan and Saudi Arabia and that it is constantly being strengthened through material and financial support. When the cause of terrorism in northern Ethiopia is seen, it is an undeniable truth that Sudan and Saudi Arabia in particular are in the forefront of interference in the internal affairs of Socialist Ethiopia and in stirring up plots.

Syria, Iraq, and Morocco have in the past given unreserved aid to terrorist bandits by totally violating the acceptable principles of government relations and in pursuit of expansionist aims.

To detail the crimes perpetrated against Ethiopia's national dignity, freedom, and territorial integrity by Sudan, Saudi Arabia, and their collaborators would take too much time, because they are too numerous. When Ethiopia's previous constant support for Arab demands at national and international forums, based on principle, is seen, the act of enmity recently shown by the governments is unforgivable and is one to be condemned.

GDR Deputy Chairman Arrives for Meeting

EA291135 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
0900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Comrade Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the GDR, this morning arrived in Addis Ababa to take part in the seventh Ethiopia-GDR scientific, technical, and economic joint commission meeting. On arrival, the comrade deputy chairman was welcomed at the Bole International Airport by Comrade Adis Tedla, WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the National Planning Central Committee. Present during the welcoming ceremony were: Comrade Wollie Chekol, WPE Central Committee member and Foreign Trade Minister; Comrade Aklilu Afewerk, head of production sector at the National Planning Committee, with the rank of a commissioner; and the two countries' ambassadors.

Comrade Rauchfuss is the chairman of the GDR-Ethiopian joint commission in his country. It is known that a 15-man GDR delegation led by two deputy ministers had arrived in Addis Ababa recently.

CAMEROON

Biya To Begin 3-Day Visit to France 4 Feb

AB301145 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] At the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand, President Paul Biya will start a 3-day official visit to France as from 4 February.

CHAD

Government: Libya Behind Attempt To Kill Habre

AB301422 Paris AFP in French 1257 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Ndjamena, 30 Jan (AFP) — In a release published today in the Chadian capital, the Chadian Government accused Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of being behind an assassination attempt against President Hissein Habre.

In a "white paper" titled "Al-Qadhdhafi's Terrorism in Chad," the Ndjamena officials assert that "the assassination of President Hissein Habre and his government was planned for 27 September 1984, by a bomb blast in a room of the ministerial council."

The investigation, which is reported in the release and which is to be handed over today to the UN Security Council in New York in addition to the complaint filed by Chad last Friday, discloses that 15 kg of explosives in a small suitcase was to be exploded by remote control from the town of Kousseri, on the Cameroonian bank of the Chari. The bomb was seized by the Chadian security services the day before the assassination attempt and the man who was supposed to plant the bomb, Ali Hassan Adam, a Chadian aged 47, was arrested.

The report says that it is "thanks to information disclosed by Chadian patriots" that the security services decided to search Ali Hassan. The latter was to receive 30 million CFA francs for services rendered, the "white paper" added. Senoussi Abdelsalam, a Libyan agent, was in charge of exploding the bomb by remote control from Cameroonian territory.

The report published detailed photographs of the bomb, its system of operation, as well as photographs of the two "terrorists." The Libyan agent's fate has not been reported in the Chadian official document.

The "White paper" also blames Al-Qadhdhafi for the explosion which destroyed a UTA DC-8 plane on 10 March 1984 at Ndjamena Airport injuring 23 passengers.

Lastly, the report states that "14 other sophisticated explosive devices are known to have been brought into the country" and that the findings which have been presented will contribute to the "identification and the possible discovery of other bombs before they can achieve their macabre objective in the interest of Libya's campaign of terror."

In Brussels, a communique issued Monday by the Transitional National Union Government, GUNT, which is opposed to the Chadian regime, mentioned an assassination attempt on President Habre in Ndjamena about 3 weeks ago. According to this communique, the attempt was "only the handiwork of Hissein Habre's entourage."

Foreign Minister Holds Talks in New York

AB292119 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] By tomorrow, Wednesday, at this time, the UN Security Council should be examining the complaint lodged by Chad against the Libyan military occupation of our territory. This has been announced to the press by Claude (Canumaria), current chairman of the Security Council.

Shortly after his arrival in New York, Foreign Minister Lassou Gouara held talks with Claude (Canumaria). Mr Gouara, according to some news agency reports, also held talks with diplomats of various friendly countries accredited to the United Ntions.

Bardai on Ndjamena Complaint to UN Security Council

AB291405 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Summary] The clique in Ndjamena, through their representative at the United Nations, has lodged a complaint at the Security Council against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. "In the false document submitted to the current chairman of the Security Council, who happens to be the representative of Burkina Faso at the United Nations, Hissein Habre's spokesman accused the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah of occupying more than 500,000 square km of Chadian territory and of organizing an assassination attempt against the wretched antinational leader of Ndjamena."

"For our part, we are not at all surprised by this new fabrication of the reactionary horde." This is just a trick designed to divert attention "from an incident which took place in Ndjamena and on which our station was first to report. Hissein Habre was the object of an unsuccessful attempt carried out by members of his clique. This was a matter of settling scores."

"We will point out that Hissein Habre's policy of ethnic discrimination, in which he favors his own ethnic group, is being contested more and more by all sections of the population." We have already mentioned this. The spontaneous reaction of the population against the assassination of the FAN number two man, Idriss Miskine, resulted in the destruction of a Boeing of the French UTA airlines in Ndjamena by Miskine's partisans. "The unsuccessful attempt against Hissein Habre reveals the instability within the puppet group" and, as usual, Libya is being used as a scapegoat.

GABON

Lebanese Shops Looted After Bongo Speech

AB291607 Paris AFP in English 1546 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Libreville, Jan 29 (AFP) — There has been some pillaging of Lebanese shops here and some Lebanese traders have kept their shops shut since President Omar Bongo made a strong attack on foreigners, particularly Lebanese traders and prostitutes, on Friday, it was reported here today.

Reliable sources in the capital said acts of vandalism against Lebanese shops in the commercial district of Mont Bouet broke out Saturday, less than 24 hours after Mr Bongo's speech, in which he accused foreigners of "ruining the national economy."

During the speech to senior police officers, which has been widely reported in the local media, the president lashed out specifically at the Lebanese community and their "well-stocked" stores. "How can it be that a dress which costs 10,000 CFA francs (20 dollars at current rates) in Paris sells for 7,000 francs (14 dollars) in the Lebanese shops of Libreville?" Mr Bongo was quoted as saying.

According to the Lebanese Embassy here, the Lebanese community in Gabon numbers only 600 out of a total Gabonese population officially estimated at 1 million. Some Lebanese families settled in the small oil-rich Central African country 30 years ago.

As in other parts of West and Central Africa, their main occupation is trading in household goods, clothing and food, and Lebanese shops have a reputation for significantly undercutting competitors' prices.

Although the Gabonese economy is considered relatively healthy, thanks primarily to the country's oil resources, rising prices have begun cutting into the budgets of many Gabonese families. Analysts here said the high profile of the Lebanese community in the country's commerce and reports of corruption involving wealthy Lebanese businessmen and Gabonese Government officials apparently provoked Friday's attack by Mr Bongo.

ZAIRE

MPR Politburo Members, Other Officials Named

AB292144 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1740 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] [Dateline indistinct] — Members of the Central Committee this afternoon elected Citizen Mpinga Kasenda first vice chairman of the Central Committee Bureau on the basis of a proposal made by Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, MPR founding chairman and president of the republic. The Central Committee Bureau, which became a permanent bureau on Monday, henceforth includes, apart from the first vice chairman, Citizen Bo-Boliko Lokongo, second vice chairman; Citizen Lesendjina Kiaba Lema and Citizen Issia Amundala, rapporteurs and secretaries.

The members of the Central Committee, who met at the Palais du Peuple under the chairmanship of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko, made Citizen Kithima Bin Ramazani permanent secretary of the Central Committee and the Political Bureau.

In regard to the MPR Political Bureau, here is the list of its 14 members: Bangala Ottow Wa Mgama, Bape Banze, Bo-Boliko Lokongo, Eluki Monga Aundu, Kalala Ilunga, Kasongo Mukundji, Kengo Wa Dondo, Ikonte Lnani (female citizen), Kithima Bin Ramazani, Wzuzi Wa Mbombo (female citizen), Lubamba Lumbu, Mpinga Kasenda, Singa Boyenge Musambay, and Rwakabuba Shingo.

In addition, a special commission in charge of drafting the internal rules of the Central Committee and the Permanent Commission [words indistinct] is chaired by Citizen Ndadwe Te Pemako, while Citizen Voa Mangono is the rapporteur. This commission also includes Citizens Kamanda Wa Kamunda, Alonji Ditunga, Nguya Ndila, Umba-di-Lutete, Nuawkakule Mbahingana, Wembi Kakese, Marotogo Mudjo, Ndudi-Ndudi, and Inonga Lokongo L'ome.

After these elections the MPR founding chairman made an important moralizing speech. Earlier, Citizen Mpinga Kasenda, first vice chairman of the Central Committee Bureau, and Citizen Kithima Bin Ramazani, permanent secretary of the Central Committee and of the Political Bureau, in turn thanked Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko for the trust he has placed in them. They promised to do their best to fulfill their missions in the interest of the party.

The extraordinary session of the MPR Central Committee, which began on Monday, will continue on Wednesday with the election of executive members of commissions and subcommissions.

Gambia River Development Organization Summit Ends

AB291714 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The sixth summit of heads of state of the Gambia River Development Organization, OMVG, ended this morning in Bissau with the adoption of priority programs of the organization. According to the joint communique signed by the heads of state of Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and by the Guinean minister of foreign affairs, these priority programs concern the construction of a dam, which will also serve as a bridge, in (Balangor) in Gambia in order to stop the salt water from entering the river; drawing up studies for the construction of a reservoir and hydroelectric dam in (Kekepi) in Senegal which will allow the irrigation of 70,000 hectares of land and an annual electricity production of 150 megawatts; and, finally, a feasibility study of the (Kouya) Dam in Guinea-Conakry. The legal instruments for the implementation of these projects were also approved by the summit.

The necessary financial outlay for the implementation of the (Balangor) and the (Kekepi) Dams was estimated at $260 million, while the feasibility studies of the (Kouya) Dam will amount to $2 million, according to OMVG experts. A meeting of potential financial backers will soon be organized in order to get the necessary finances for the implementation of the OMVG programs, which also include $20 million worth of agricultural and health projects.

The summit also approved the construction of the headquarters of the organization in Dakar as well as the search for sources for financing such a building. The summit adopted the organization's budget, which was balanced in revenue and expenditure at 152 million CFA francs.

The heads of state of the OMVG agreed to allocate 8 million units of account from the European Developmet Fund for feasibility studies on the upper basin of the Gambia River and the basins of the Koliba-Coroubal Rivers and Kouyamba-Geba Rivers in Guinea-Bissau. They also approved a draft agreement pertaining to tax and custom duties applicable to contract studies and construction works of the OMVG. Finally, the heads of state decided to hold the next summit in June 1986 in Banjul, Gambia, and elected the Gambian minister of water resources, Omer Jallow, as chairman of the Council of Ministers of the OMVG.

At the closing session of the summit, the head of state of Guinea-Bissau, General Joao Bernardo Vieira, who was elected current chairman of the OMVG, stressed the need for rigor and austerity in the financial management of the organization. Without rigor and austerity, the organization cannot earn the confidence of its partners, he said. He also called on the technocrats to get out of the abstract parts of the organization's dossier to the concrete analysis of contracts in the field.

BENIN

Burkinabe Minister Delivers Sankara Message to Kerekou

AB290820 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou, held discussions with Henri Zongo, Burkinabe minister of economic promotion, this afternoon. Comrade Henri Zongo, who was at the head of a five-member delegation, was accompanied to the presidential office by Comrade Frederic Affo, our minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Answering questions by our reporter, Sylvestre Zomahou, the Burkinabe minister said that he was sent in by President Thomas Sankara to deliver a message to our great comrade in arms, President Kerekou.

DPRK Economic Delegation Arrives in Cotonou

AB300750 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A DPRK economic mission arrived in our country this afternoon. The eight-member delegation, which is led by Comrade Kim Chang-chol, was welcomed at Cotonou International Airport by a party and state delegation headed by Kboukari Alidou, chairman of the Rural Development Commission at the Revolutionary National Assembly. At the VIP lounge, Kim Chang-chol made the following statement:

[Begin Kim Chang-chol recording in Korean fading into French translation] First of all, we would like to thank you for your invitation. President Kim Il-song, great leader of the Korean people, and Kim Chong-il, beloved leader, have sent us to Benin to implement the agreements signed by President Mathieu Kerekou during his visit to Korea. We are very happy to see the various achievements of the Beninese people under the wise leadership of President Mathieu Kerekou. Within the framework of South-South cooperation, we will do everything possible to achieve great results. During our visit, we will hold discussions on the construction of the party's school, a hospital, and on an (?irrigation project). After discussing all these problems, we will accelerate the implementation of these projects. I am convinced that our visit to your country will be fruitful and will help to further strengthen bonds of cooperation between our two countries. [end recording]

BURKINA

Officials Speak Against 'False Rumors'

AB292149 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] One of the weapons of reactionaries is the propagation of alarming false rumors. Thus, in Bobo Dioulasso, rumors have been circulating that a decree has been published making it obligatory for all youths 25 years old to get married within a period of 2 months; otherwise, those who work in the civil service will be summarily dismissed. It was even said that Comrade Rawlings has turned his back against the revolution. These rumors have been the talk of the town and, to put an end to these false stories, the provincial news reporters met Comrade High Commissioner Yacouba Traore and Comrade Lieutenant Diallo Moussa, chairman of the Coordinating Committee of the Bobo Dioulasso Committee for the Defense of the Revolution. Both officials made some statements on the radio. In their statements, they severely criticized these reactionaries who think Bobo can be used as their base for their false maneuvers. Clear explanations have been given to dispel these rumors. [passage omitted]

Government Abolishes Individual Ownership of Land

AB252015 Dakar PANA in French 1619 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Ouagadougou, 25 Jan (AIB/PANA) — Burkina has decided to abolish the issuance of land ownership titles [titre foncier] and thereby put an end to individual ownership of land. This new decision is contained in the ordinance on financial law for the 1985 financial year, which also institutes a "temporary occupation tax" [taxe de jouissance] aimed at giving land to those who do not have any.

According to the new law, all the land belongs to the state and neither parcelled nor unparcelled estates may be sold. These arrangements concern only undeveloped estates. The land that has already been developed and for which a land ownership title or a permit to build has already been issued will not attract the "temporary occupation tax." Land in rural areas which has not yet been developed and which is farming land, and even land on which farmers' houses have been built, are exempted from the tax. This is not the case, however, for land which has already been developed or will be developed for commercial or industrial purposes.

The abolition of the land ownership title brings an end to the tendency of a minority to abusively exploit the people through property transactions. Before this law was passed, the affluent people in society were able to buy several estates at the same time to the detriment of the majority of the people.

GHANA

Annan on Commitment to Ideology, Political System

AB292010 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Justice D.F. Annan, has repeated that Ghana wants to move away from political and ideological labels. What Ghanaians want to do is to go back to their roots and look at the situation as it existed before the intervention of colonialism. Mr Justice Annan, who is also chairman of the National Commission for Democracy, was speaking to a correspondent of the Paris-based magazine *AFRIQUE-ASIE*.

He said there is the need for Ghana and all African countries to examine their traditions and progress since independence in their search for a stable political system. Mr Justice Annan declared: An important thing is not to commit ourselves to any modern ideology that will not lead to the proper intellectual appreciation of the political program which we ought to have. He said in a search for a new political system for Ghana, the government intends to guard against the elements of utopianism by working directly with the people. Ghana has been exposed to the colonial system, to Kwame Nkrumah and the thinking of other great Ghanaians, and the current revolution.

Mr Justice Annan said: Because of this political experience and this political exposure, we feel we have a very good chance for coming out with concrete structures and building blocks of the new society we are thinking of.

TIMES Denounces Report on Alleged Ties With Israel

AB301015 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 30 Jan 85

From the press review]

[Text] The *GHANAIAN TIMES* takes up the denial by the government of the allegation by the London based *ECONOMIST* magazine that Ghana has been secretly maintaining relations with Israel. The paper says it is not difficult for anyone who understands the clumsy but mischievous tactics of imperialist forces to appreciate the timing of this allegation. According to the *TIMES*, the obvious aim is to cause a state of disunity in order either to keep away some African countries from the current OAU Liberation Committee meeting in Accra or at least to cause dissenting voices during the session's deliberations, for Africa's relations with Israel is an issue over which some amount of destruction can be caused within African ranks.

The *TIMES* observes that the specific mention of Ghana as having dealings with Israel is very crucial since she is the host of the Liberation Committee session. But it maintains that this imperialist plan will not work because Ghana stands by the OAU decision against racism in Israel.

Briefs

New Ambassador to Egypt — The government has appointed Colonel Anoff as Ghana's ambassador to Egypt. Until his appointment, he was a medical officer at the Military Hospital in Accra. [Text] [*Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 28 Jan 85 AB*]

GUINEA

Briefs

New Envoy to Japan — Our new ambassador to Japan, His Excellency Bangaly Dabo, on 23 January 1985 presented his credentials to His Majesty Hirohito. [Excerpt] [*Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 26 Jan 85 AB*]

IVORY COAST

Rwandan Foreign Minister Meets With Ake

AB291330 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 29 Jan 85 p 7

[Text] The Rwandan foreign minister, Francois Ngarukiyintwali, who arrived here late Sunday afternoon, began his series of visits yesterday. In the morning, he was received by his Ivorian counterpart, Simeon Ake. Ivorian-Rwandan relations were discussed during the working session held by the two ministers in the presence of their close associates.

Simeon Ake first welcomed our guest and then spoke of some of the achievements of our country in its 24 years of independence.

For his part, Francois Ngarukiyintwali once again said he came to convey the greetings, friendship, and esteem of the Rwandan people to the brotherly people of Ivory Coast. He added that the main purpose of his visit was to learn from the Ivorian experience in various sectors. Francois Ngarukiyintwali said he was very confident of the future of cooperative relations between his country and ours and even more confident that this cooperation can be effective and practical. This is why the Rwandan foreign minister felt that there can first of all be cultural exchanges. These exchanges, he said, would help promote a deeper understanding between the two peoples. Francois Ngarukiyintwali expressed satisfaction with Ivory Coast's achievements, notably in the scientific and agricultural sectors. He believes that visits to these installations may be beneficial to his delegation.

On Thursday, the two delegations will sign a friendship and cooperation agreement and a technical and scientific cooperation agreement to lay the foundation for healthy and effective cooperation.

After the audience with Simeon Ake, the Rwandan minister called on Camille Alliali, minister of state. The two men exchanged views on relations between Ivory Coast and Rwanda. In the afternoon, Minister Francois Ngarukiyintwali visited the city of Abidjan after a meeting with Denis Bra Kanon, minister of agriculture, water, and forest resources. Today, our guest continues his meetings with the authorities and will later visit the Bhohorn [commercial enterprise] establishments.

LIBERIA

LPP's Sawyer on People's Desire for Democracy

AB290915 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Monrovia, Jan 29 (AFP) — Liberian People's Party [LPP] Chairman Professor Amos Sawyer has warned that the Liberian people "do not want guided, selective or martial democracy", but anticipate a return to civilian rule through a "genuine democratic process", the independent *FOOTPRINTS TODAY* newspaper reported here Monday. The paper said Prof Sawyer made the statement to the Special Election Commission last Friday when he presented his partisan list of 3,000 members for probation as a political entity to canvass for the October general elections that are to return Liberia to civilian rule, ending five years of military rule, in January 1986.

Prof Sawyer warned that any attempt to "divert from the multiparty democratic system will be totally contrary to the will and desire of our people and will therefore be considered an unpatriotic course". (Mr Sawyer chaired the commission that wrote the new constitution.) He said the question now being raised among the public "is not who would be president in the second republic but whether a democratic process would be allowed to take its course".

On recent changes in the Special Elections Commission, Prof Sawyer said it was up to the commission to prove to the people that the changes were not done to reduce its members to a "puppet or rubber stamp body." About two weeks ago, Liberian leader Samuel Doe replaced four of the five members of the commission, leaving Chairman Emmett Harmon retaining his post and the only original member.

In an apparent reference to the suspension of the United People's Party from further political activities by the commission, for alleged distribution of information pamphlets, Prof Sawyer said: "If dropping leaflets from the air is accepted, then distributing leaflets on the ground should be accepted. If holding organizational meetings for one proposed party prior to certification is acceptable for one proposed party, it should be accepted for all proposed parties," he said.

UP Lawyer Says Case Designed to Thwart Legal Status

AB290840 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The probate court at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia yesterday postponed to Thursday, 31 January, hearing into the objection case filed against the Unity Party, UP. About a month ago, Daniel (Sloan) and William B.F.R. Bulley filed an objection against the probation of the UP as a political party in Liberia. They portended that UP had created its own constituency in Bomi County.

Judge Elvin Arch Thompson of the probate court ordered postponement of hearing into the case yesterday following a request for time from the two objectors to see legal representatives. Judge Arch Thompson, in granting the request, noted that it was the right of party litigants to request a court to seek legal counsel of their choice in any trial and therefore such request cannot be denied.

Earlier, the UP's legal representative argued that the objection raised by the two men was merely intended to frustrate the party's effort to gain legal status as a political party in Liberia. The party's lawyers also argued that the court should deny the request of the two men because their aim was to delay and baffle the trial.

Secom Urged To Lift Suspension on UPP Activities
AB292022 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1710 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] The committee to organize and register the United People's Party [UPP] has urged the Special Election Commission [Secom] to lift the suspension of its canvassing activities. A release issued in Monrovia today by UPP argued that Secom utilized almost a month in just reviewing the financial document it presented. It further said that Secom has now taken 2 weeks to resolve the suspension imposed on it.

This, noted the UPP release, has seriously undermined the chances of participating in the ensuing elections. The committee said that since excluding the UPP from the elections could not be Secom's intended (?purpose), it has therefore urged that the suspension be lifted.

Meanwhile, Secom disclosed today that it will hold a 4-day workshop in Monrovia beginning 4 February for its county and territory coordinators. he executive director of Secom, Mrs Celestin Steward, today informed ELWA about the forthcoming workshop, that it will deal with rules and regulations governing voters. She said 21 coordinators are expected to attend the workshop.

LAP Questions Jurisdiction of Probate Court
AB301035 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The Liberia Action Party [LAP] yesterday told political opponents that the probate court at the Temple of Justice had no jurisdiction to entertain trials of matters relating to the preregistration requirements of the party. Although LAP did not point out any political party, but in a three-page rebutter to a petition submitted last week to Secom [Special Elections Commission] by a five-man team from Nimba County led by Paramount Chief Henry (Trazumah), the chairman of the organizing committee of LAP, Tuan Wreh, said the law [words indistinct] jurisdication in the Secom as confirmed by PRC [People's Redemption Council] Decree No 75, Section 4.

Outgoing Chinese Ambassador Calls on Minister
AB301025 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The outgoing Chinese ambassador to Liberia, Liu Pu, has assured his government's willingness to assist the Liberian Government construct a new health and social welfare ministry. Mr Lui gave the assurance recently when he paid a courtesy call on health and social welfare minister, Mrs Martha Sendolo Belleh, at her Sinkor office to inform her about the expiration of his assignment in Liberia.

The Chinese envoy said his country and Liberia have enjoyed unique traditional bonds of friendship since the establishment of diplomatic relations between them in the 60's and that China was always willing to assist the development endeavors of Liberia. Ambassador Lui then commended the government and people of Liberia for the warm hospitality accorded him during his assignment in Monrovia and promised to convey to the government and people of China the kind sentiments of the Liberian people.

Speaking earlier, Mrs Belleh informed the Chinese envoy that the government was determined to construct a new health and social welfare ministry to ease the present space problem at the ministry's headquarters in Sinkor. She hoped the Chinese Government would continue to assist Liberia in its development efforts, especially in the areas of health and education. Minister Belleh also recounted Chinese assistance to Liberia in the area of health and gave particular reference to the 14-man Chinese health team in Bong Mine health center. She then wished the Chinese envoy bon voyage on behalf of the government and people of Liberia and hoped he would find his assignment in the other country rewarding.

NIGERIA

Lagos on Formal Request for Dikko Extradition
AB291055 Lagos International Service in English 0950 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] At the inception of the military administration in Nigeria in January last year, a number of Nigerians, against whom serious allegations of corruption had been made by the entire people, fled the country. They were then declared wanted by the government to defend themselves against the allegations of corruption. Among the wanted persons is Umaru Dikko, who held simultaneously in the ousted civilian regime the offices of minister of transport and chairman of the task force for the importation of rice.

A few days after he fled Nigeria, Umaru Dikko appeared in London, from where he started pouring vituperations against Nigeria. Surprisingly, he was allowed the use of British facilities such as the British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, for this purpose. For instance, it was on the BBC World Service that he announced his plan to carry out what he called a Jihad against Nigeria. Ever since, Nigerians have been demanding Dikko's extradition from Britain. But the British Government, which has extended amazing goodwill to the fugitive even at the risk of Britain's age-long ties with Nigeria, has paid no attention to the demand on the ground that the Nigerian Government has not formally asked for Dikko's extradition.

Now, this has been done. Nigeria has filed papers in London giving reasons why Umaru Dikko is wanted by home. The ball, therefore, is now in the British court. This is an opportunity for Britain to restore and restrengthen relations between her and Nigeria, which the Thatcher administration had unfortunately allowed to be smeared over the Dikko affair last July.

The Nigerian leader, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, has already stated that the government and people of Nigeria are prepared without prejudice to our national interests to work in genuine friendship with Britain, which is Nigeria's largest trading partner in Europe and which shares with us the bonds of membership of the Commonwealth. This declaration testifies to Nigeria's willingness to maintain good relations with Britain for the mutual benefit of the two nations. But this can only materialize in an atmosphere of cordiality and reciprocity. It will be in the best interest of Anglo-Nigerian relations therefore for Britain to cooperate with Nigeria over the extradition issue.

After all, this is not the first time that a problem of this nature has been amicably resolved between the two countries. Mrs Thatcher's government can be guided by the resolutions on a similar incident in the early 1960's when Nigeria successfully demanded the extradition of a prominent Nigerian fugitive from Britain. Besides, it is now well known to all and sundry that the motive of the present government in Nigeria is to cleanse our society and rebuild it rather than to victimize or witch-hunt anybody. Within a setting like this, it should be very easy for the British Government to resolve the extradition issue in a way that would promote cordial relations between the two countries.

3,500 Illegal Aliens Evacuated From Sokoto

AB251050 Lagos NAN in English 1025 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] Sokoto, Jan. 25 (NAN)— The combined team of immigration and police officials has started the evacuation of illegal aliens resident in many parts of Sokoto State, an investigation by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) shows. The investigation shows that the evacuation which started late three nights ago would continue until the illegal aliens are completely routed out of the state. A competent source told NAN that about 3,500 illegal aliens have been evacuated so far.

A correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) who went round Sokoto town yesterday saw that the areas being used by the illegal aliens have been cleared leaving behind their scanty property. The assistant director of immigration for Sokoto, Mr. Vincent Duru was said to have traveled out of Sokoto when NAN called in his office.

$800 Million Contract With French Companies Canceled

AB270735 Paris AFP in English 0333 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan 26 (AFP) — The Lagos State government said Friday it had cancelled an 800-million-dollar contract with a consortium of 19 French companies to build an elevated tube-train system here in the Nigerian capital.

State Works and Transport Minister A. Kenku said the contract, arranged in 1982, was "not technically in force." He accused the French side of frustrating all efforts to renegotiate the contract between last May and December, after a review showed that the project would cost too much.

The capital has some six million inhabitants, and despite a network of expressways, congestion is so bad that people daily spend up to four hours in traffic jams, so city dwellers welcomed the tubetrain plan. But it was criticised by many local economists and the International Monetary Fund because it would bring no foreign exchange to Nigeria, which is in a very delicate economic and financial situation.

PUNCH Condemns British Maltreatment of Nigerians

AB300945 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *PUNCH* observes that the British authorities have in recent times been subjecting Nigerians to inhuman treatments. The paper notes that in spite of the existing cordial diplomatic relations with Britain, she has consistently disregarded Nigeria's national aspirations. While the *PUNCH* admits that some Nigerians sometimes abuse the hospitality of the host nation, it, however, advises the British Government to prosecute such people instead of maltreating them.

DAILY TIMES Calls on Reagan To Pursue World Peace

AB261020 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY TIMES* expresses concern over the determination of President Ronald Reagan of the United States to continue with his former policies on international relations. The paper explains that such a stance will not enhance world peace and mutual understanding. The *TIMES* therefore calls on the U.S. President to pursue the noble cause of world peace and true freedom for mankind.

SENEGAL

Diouf Returns From Bissau OMVG Summit Meeting

AB300742 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The head of state has returned to Dakar from Bissau, where he attended the sixth meeting of heads of state and government of the Gambia River Development Organization, OMVG. This was the best summit I have ever attended in view of the clear-cut decisions made and the atmosphere which prevailed in the deliberations, President Diouf stated early this afternoon on his return from Bissau.

The head of state, who was speaking to the press, praised the excellent preparatory meeting of the Council of Ministers. Under the chairmanship of Samba Yella Diop, the Senegalese minister of water resources, the council submitted a very good dossier to the heads of state. Thanks to this, we were able to make major decisions affecting the future of our countries on the development of the Gambia River and its tributaries.

OAU Interim Secretary General Arrives for Visit

AB292214 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] OAU interim Secretary General Peter Onu arrived in Dakar this evening for a 24-hour visit to Senegal. Peter Onu was welcomed on arrival by (Madi) Ndaw, secretary general at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Peter Onu will hold talks with Ibrahima Fall and will be received in audience tomorrow by the head of state, President Abdou Diouf. The OAU interim secretary general will give a press conference tonight at the Novotel after a dinner hosted in his honor by PANA.

SIERRA LEONE

Bank Governor on Gold Industry Review, Economy

AB270915 Paris AFP in English 0717 GMT 27 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 27 (AFP) — The governor of the Bank of Sierra Leone, J.S. Funna, has called for a review of the operations of the country's gold industry if control is to be regained over an important source of foreign exchange earnings.

Speaking at the governor's banquet here Friday, which traditionally reviews Sierra Leone's economic performance during the past year, Dr Funna said that at the end of 1984, there were 83 gold export licences outstanding, while records showed that only 22 licensed gold operators had exported legally, with half reporting exports under 50 thousand dollars. He said gold exports in 1984 totalled 18,223 ounces, of which the bank's share was 10,150 ounces.

The governor said diamond exports increased to 38.6 million dollars, which more than doubled the 1983 level of 17 million dollars.

Referring to the export incentive scheme which was introduced in January last year, allowing exporters of alluvial gold and diamonds to use the proceeds for the purpose of financing approved imports, the bank governor said that between the introduction of the scheme and its termination in August, 24 million dollars were channelled through the banking system as compared with 17 million dollars for 1983.

Dr Funna said that due to the difficult foreign exchange situation, imports had declined steadly from 360 million dollars in 1980 to 161 million dollars in 1983 and an estimated 156 million dollars in 1984. Food imports dropped from 25 percent of the total in 1983 to 15 percent in 1984, with crude oil accounting for almost a third of total imports.

Turning to budgetary developments, Dr Funna said there was a marked deterioration in overall performance during the first half of fiscal 1984/85, amounting to only 135 million leones (2.54 equals one dollar), exactly the same as for the corresponding period of 1983/84, when the rate of inflation was lower. Expenditure increased to 305 million leones in the first half of 1984/85, as against 191 million for July-December 1984. These developments, he said, led to a 170 million leones deficit for the first half of the current financial year.

The governor spoke of the need to "restore credibility so as to honour international commitments" and for "full compliance with surrender obligations by all foreign exchange earners," stressing that this was not "an esoteric requirement by the central bank but a matter of national survival." Complementary issues included generous retention facilities, an urgent need to contain budgetary expansion, and a realistic and flexible exchange rate regime, the governor said.

Saudi Arabia To Build Hospital in Freetown

AB291628 Paris AFP in French 1450 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, 29 Jan (AFP) — The Saudi Arabian ambassador to Sierra Leone, Mr Abdallah al-Tubahshi, has said that his country has just completed the plan for a new hospital in Freetown. He said this yesterday while being received by President Siaka Stevens. The ambassador also handed over an invitation from King Fahd to the head of state to visit Saudi Arabia.

During the last 2 years, Saudi Arabia has granted the country $1.5 million for the building of an Islamic high school in Magburaka, 200 km from Freetown, $2 million in foodstuffs and medication, and 59,047 tons of fertilizers. In addition to that, the Saudi Kingdom has started an investment program, especially in a hydro-electric project which will cost 50 million riyal ($1 is worth 3.55 riyals). Saudi Arabia is presently studying investment opportunities in road construction and the agricultural and mining sectors.

Finally, 500 unskilled Sierra Leoneans are working in Saudi Arabia in the oil drilling field.

Mitterrand Adviser Visits Mauritius, Madagascar

AB291622 Paris AFP in English 1549 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Port Louis, Jan 29 (AFP) — Guy Penne, special adviser on African affairs to French President Francois Mitterrand, arrived here today for an official visit and talks with Mauritius Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth.

Mr Penne said on his arrival that he was carrying an invitation from President Mitterrand for Mr Jugnauth to visit France. Mr Penne is due to hold talks tomorrow with Prime Minister Jugnauth, vice prime minister Sir Gaetan Duval and foreign minister Anyl Gayan.

The French envoy arrived here from a 48-hour visit to Madagascar which included talks with Magalasy President Didier Ratsiraka. (At the end of his visit to Madagascar, Mr Penne said that French aid to the island state would remain at the same "high" level as last year. He also ruled out any visit by President Mitterrand to Madagascar this year, which sees the 25th anniversary of the island's independence from France and the 10th anniversary of President Ratsiraka taking power.)

ANGOLA

Soviet Youth League Delegation Departs

MB300956 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] A delegation of the All-Union Leninist Communist Youth League of the Soviet Union [Komsomol], which has been visiting our country since 25 January, left Angola for their country yesterday after a journey of friendship.

Looking back at the visit of the Komsomol delegation, the secretary of the national committee of the MPLA-Labor Party Youth Wing for external relations said that this visit characterizes the friendship existing between the Angolan and Soviet youth, and he underlined the unity which is further strengthening and increasing between the MPLA-Labor Party and the CPSU.

The Soviet delegation, headed by (Vladimir Mikhaylov), the deputy chief of general staff of the department of builders and students of the Komsomol Central Council, and the Angola delegation stressed the most important aspects of this visit and they expounded upon the importance of the 12th World Youth Festival to be held next summer in Moscow.

(Vladimir Mikhaylov) said that this visit produced better results than the previous visit, and he added that this will contribute to the strengthening of the friendship ties between Angolan and Soviet youth.

MOZAMBIQUE

65 New Cuban 'Internationalists' Arrive

MB301036 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0900 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] A group of 65 foreign aid workers who have come to work in our country arrived in Maputo yesterday, joining a number of other Cuban internationalists-workers rendering service in various sectors of activity. This information was revealed by *NOTICIAS*. The group comprises specialists in the education, housing, agriculture, fishing, transport, culture, and health sectors, among others. New groups of Cuban foreign aid workers are expected soon.

White Mercenaries 'Believed' Involved in Sabotage

MB251929 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Text] It is believed that white men took part in the last two sabotage actions on the South Africa-Maputo powerline.

Mozambican authorities are investigating those two sabotage actions, which occurred respectively 2 km and 9 km from the South African border on 14 and 22 January.

Sources linked to the investigation today told AIM that local peasants said they had seen armed white men enter from South Africa at night.

These eyewitnesses, together with the sophisticated techniques used in both sabotage actions, suggest the presence of highly trained white mercenaries among the armed bandits who operate around the border area.

It is not the first time that mercenaries have been involved in sabotage actions against Mozambique. In October 1981, (Allan Jenkins), a mercenary in the pay of the South African Army, was killed by the FPLM during a confronatation in Manica Province. He was carrying heavy explosives. (Jenkins) was a former lieutenant with the British Army.

South African authorities announced his death, but they said that it had occurred in the so-called operational area, a term normally used to describe northern Namibia and southern Angola.

SOUTH AFRICA

Spokesman: No Talks With ANC Until Violence Ends

MB291144 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] A spokesman for the office of the state president has reconfirmed that the South African Government will not hold discussions with the ANC, before the ANC relinquishes its stand on violence. The spokesman, Mr Jack Viviers, was reacting in Cape Town to newspaper reports claiming the ANC had offered

to enter into a cease-fire in order to negotiate with the South African Government. Mr Viviers said it remained the state president's standapoint that it would take far more than a statement of intent by the ANC to stop violence to bring the state to enter into negotiations with the terrorist group.

British newspapers earlier quoted Mr Viviers as saying that the ANC would have to give long-term evidence, having ceased committing acts of terror against the people of South Africa.

PFP's Suzman Says Disinvestment at 'Door'
MB291449 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1435 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] House of Assembly, Jan 29, SAPA — The peril of foreign disinvestment was now at South Africa's door, and this could tip the country into bankruptcy, Mrs Helen Suzman (Progressive Federal Party (PFP) Houghton) warned yesterday.

Speaking in the no confidence debate, Mrs Suzman said the state president's opening speech in itself would do nothing to stem the punitive action being waged abroad against South Africa.

The disinvestment campaign had reached "the proportions of a tidal wave", she said.

Unlike many others in the house, she did not believe the president's speech heralded a new era of redress and reform.

Mrs Suzman said she recalled the disappointments of the past, of promises made abroad and broken at home. Nor could she forget the dashed expectations of "those starry-eyed businessmen" who attended the Carlton and good hope conferences. "We don't hear such ecstatic remarks about our competent government any more."

Mrs Suzman said she had repeatedly warned the government that, unless positive steps were taken to remove statutory race discrimination, or the government at least desisted from some of the more repulsive aspects of its policy, South Africa would be subjected to punitive action from the rest of the world.

"The peril is now at our door. There is a veritable flood of legislation in preparation in the U.S. on divestment and economic relations with South Africa," she said.

"Even if some of the bills and resolutions are dropped, I believe we can say goodbye to new U.S. investments in South Africa, for the hassle factor is enough to deter any aspirant investor."

She said it would be the epitome of self-deception to believe that the president's speech would halt a campaign that had gained such momentum.

One of the punitive measures under serious consideration was the denial of landing rights and airspace to South African Airways.

The house should remember that the "step in the right direction" accredited to the new constitution had yielded nothing towards better race relations in South Africa, Mrs Suzman said.

Instead, the scene was dominated by ugly (?relations) soaring to a new high.

Mrs Suzman said she did not believe that "nebulous incremental change" would save South Africa from isolation.

"What would undoubtedly be more effective would be a clear, unambiguous statement by the government that it will remove influx control, has abandoned all plans for further forced removals, that it will return to due process (of law) and will release all detainees held without trial and that it will [word indistinct].

Furthermore, the government should announce its intention to free Nelson Mandela and others.

"Thereafter, the government must act with all deliberate speed to dismantle apartheid and move toward a system of government based on the consent of all South Africans, irrespective of race," she said, adding in conclusion that the PFP advocated that policy "because it is morally right, politically tenable and economically sound."

Ebrahim Says Labor Party Sees 'Realities'
MB291443 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1416 GMT 29 Jan 84

[Text] House of Representatives, Jan 29, SAPA — "The Labor Party recognised important realities of South Africa which could not be ignored or wished away, as organizations like the United Democratic Front [UDF] and the Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO) wanted to do, the minister of education and culture in the House of Representatives, Mr Carter Ebrahim, said today.

"We have identified with those who seek a peaceful solution to South Africa's problems," he told members while speaking against the motion of no confidence proposed yesterday by the leader of the opposition, Mr Dennis de la Cruz.

There was no place for "political opportunism" such as that shown by the UDF when it invited Senator Ted Kennedy to visit the republic in the hope his presence would "wield a big stick" over the government.

"Instead of a big comet in the sky, his (Senator Kennedy's) visit was nothing more than a damp squib," Mr Ebrahim said.

"This political opportunism met the end it deserved."

The United States politician's visit had however highlighted very clearly that South Africa was a deeply divided society, and that black unity was a pipedream.

Referring to press reports of the visit, he said: "We saw black people at daggers with each other."

There was no room for political opportunism in South African politics and the UDF had sealed its own doom, with its followers falling out among one another and its road ahead leading nowhere.

"I hope this lesson has come home to the black community," the minister said.

Similarly the Marxist models proposed by AZAPO and the black consciousness movement to solve South Africa's problems would only lead to bloodshed and violence. This was clearly shown by what had happened in Mozambique.

AZAPO objected to attempts to create a black middle class through property ownership, but the establishment of such a class was one of the cornerstones of a peaceful society in the country.

As Mr Ebrahim spoke, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, entered the house for the first time to listen to the debate.

The minister said one of the realities accepted by the Labor Party was that whites had political power, and that they would not capitulate overnight, as the UDF hoped.

"We in the Labor Party recognise that the road ahead is long and difficult, but is the only one...and we have powerful friends — not on the outside, but internally. "The state president has committed himself, and it is an honor to have him here today...his very presence is a symbol of his commitment," Mr Ebrahim said.

Hendrickse Visits White House of Assembly

MB291618 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1618 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Excerpt] House of Assembly, Jan 29, SAPA — The assembly was visited for the first time today by a non-white member of the tricameral parliament while the houses were in separate session.

Cabinet minister and leader of the majority Labour Party [LP] in the House of Representatives, Reverend Allan Hendrickse, entered the assembly chamber while Mr Daan van der Merwe (Conservative Party (CP) Rissik) was saying during the no confidence debate that current National Party policy and the new tricameral dispensation represented white abdication.

Mr Hendrickse took a seat in the NP whip's bench, directly behind the seat reserved for the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, who was not present at the time.

The duty whip, Mr Piet Clase (National Party (NP) Virginia) warmly shook Mr Hendrickse's hand and the LP leader was also welcomed by the minister of industry and commerce, Dr Dawid de Villiers, who was in the next bench.

Mr Van der Merwe mentioned a statement by a NP leader to the effect that whites could no longer go it alone, adding that Rev Hendrickse had been called in to help govern the whites.

"There he sits, there he sits," several CP members chorused, while Mr Van der Merwe accused the government of racism and asked why Coloured parliamentarians had a separate chamber if, as the government claimed, Coloureds shared a common culture and language with Afrikaners.

Mr Hendrickse talked quietly with Mr Clase and did not react to Mr Van der Merwe, who went on to say the NP was misleading not only the whites, but also the Coloureds and Indians.

"I tell you, the time of the NP is short," Mr Van der Merwe said.

Further Reaction to President Botha's Initiatives

Proposals Based on 'Reality'

MB290706 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is evident from reactions to the initiatives announced by President Botha on Friday that there are misconceptions, both about what the initiatives do not, and about what in fact they do, represent in the political ordering of national affairs. There has been some criticism that they are ad hoc and unrelated responses, in effect, crisis management, to problems that have arisen in the situation of blacks living outside the national states. That criticism is based on an inadequate reading of the president's speech. Some have expressed the view that the new measures constitute an abandonment of the major principle underlying the constitutional structuring of this multinational society. That view is the result of confusion between principles and the most appropriate means for putting them into practice.

The measures spelled out by Mr Botha all emanate from a single unalterable reality of the South Africa of today and the future; that is: that the urban black communities settled in the Republic are permanent inhabitants of this country. Accepting that reality has important implications in social, economic, and constitutional planning, implications that must be intelligently assessed and dealt with in policy to ensure that the security and vital interests of every national group will continue to be safeguarded. Ignoring that reality would be dangerous escapism. It would permit the phenomenon to grow and options for dealing with it to narrow, until the political response would per force be nothing better than crisis management. As such, it would be incapable of guaranteeing the security and welfare of the different communities.

That, guaranteeing group security is the fundamental principle that for decades has dictated the form of constitutional structures and national policies in South Africa. From the start it was seen as the only course along which a stable dispensation could be ensured for the country's diversity of nations and ethnic communities. Overriding ethnicity had proved disastrous elsewhere, and so on Friday the state president once again declared the government's commitment to the principle that no population group should be placed in a position to rule over another. The first big step towards putting the principle into practice was taken with the establishment of self-governing and later independent black national states.

In those early years, it was expected that the homelands would in time develop sufficiently economically to accommodate virtually all the original members of their nations. That expectation was false. It was not realized that the task of such magnitude

would require resources many times greater than South Africa could provide, even had her people been prepared to make inordinate sacrifices. In addition, the need for labor to maintain the Republic's own economic development forced the recruitment of more workers.

By 1975, a government research body, (Bense), found the national states were able to provide employment for less than 15 percent of new black workseekers. Black urbanization in the Republic was a fact dramatized by such statistics, and the permanence of urban black communities came to be accepted in policy planning. Clearly, constitutional structures over and above those provided by the national states had to be devised to give appropriate expression to the principle of community security and self-determination. The new initiatives on the urban blacks are essentially a response to their permanence, in a context of upholding the fundamental principle of constitutional development in South Africa.

Foreign Reactions Cited

MB291336 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Station Commentary: "Reactions to New Initiatives in South Africa"]

[Text] Favorable reaction from many quarters to the new initiatives announced by the South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha, regarding the constitutional development of blacks outside the 10 national states in greater South Africa shows that there are those abroad who have some appreciation of the country's political complexity.

President Botha's announcement made headline news in major western capitals and was particularly well received in Britain. The *LONDON DAILY MAIL* commented: Those many people who think that nothing good can ever come from the actions of any South African government will be agreeably surprised by the latest speech from President Botha for its [word indistinct] of program for the improvement of the lot of the black community with the most radical implications.

BBC's television describes Mr Botha as the bravest leader in 36 years of Nationalist rule.

The *LONDON SUNDAY TIMES* says the initiatives mark another major step in the surprisingly rapid evolution of apartheid in the past 2 years. The newspaper was not particularly impressed with the decision to create an informal, nonstatutory forum where representatives from the entire political spectrum in the country could participate in deliberating the political future of certain black communities. However, it says the other reforms could genuinely improve the lot of many blacks. It states: From now on urban blacks will be able to own the land on which their houses stand. The brutal policy of forcibly removing blacks to the so-called homelands, which has caused so much distress in the past years, is to be reconsidered and the influx control of black migration from homelands are to be modified. These are real advances.

THE WASHINGTON POST says the creation of the nonstatutory forum shows for the first time the South African Government's preparedness to talk to blacks outside the framework of apartheid bodies it had instituted. *THE WASHINGTON POST*, therefore, attaches more importance to the formation of a nonstatutory forum than any of the other initiatives announced by President Botha. And perhaps rightly so, as this in fact amounts to a calling of a national convention on the political future of the country, something which the critics of the South African Government at home and abroad have long sought.

RAND DAILY MAIL Urges Action

MB280830 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 28 Jan 85 p 8

[Editorial: "No Time for Tinkering"]

[Text] We wish we could share Dr Andries Treurnicht's conviction that the Nationalist Government has "finally parted" with separate development.

Unfortunately the Conservative Party leader is given to hysterical overreaction on the subject of race. Experience, too, has taught us that parting with apartheid is always accompanied by lingering farewells. Thus the first real step away from Verwoerdian ideology was taken several years ago with the dropping of the "temporary sojourner" status of urban blacks. But the retention of influx control, the failure to provide accommodation for those already living in urban areas, the refusal to allow informal housing, the introduction of the extremely cumbersone 99-year leasehold system, and the delay in surveying properties so that people could register their leasehold rights, robbed this exercise in reform of all credibility.

Leasehold is now in perpetuity, yet President Botha has raised only the "possibility" of freehold. Does this mean yet more tinkering with a failed, rejected system — or does it mean the government will, very soon, cut its losses and bring in freehold without futher ado?

Similarly, the state president's announcement of steps to remove the "negative and discriminatory" aspects of influx control suggests we can expect expensive, frustrating and unworkable halfway controls, instead of a single bold move which will make up in good will for what it loses in "orderliness."

And will the clarification of the citizenship issue to which President Botha referred be merely an exercise in nomenclature, or the recognition of a common citizenship for all who want it? Will the new informal, nonstatutory forum for debate between government and blacks on constitutional issues be another failed "talking shop," or a forum so open, so receptive, that no-one can afford to boycott it? There is an astonishing suggestion, in yesterday's *RAPPORT*, that only those who did not support violence will be welcome to participate. We would have though it is precisely those people who need to be brought to the conference table. Let them have their say — then let others see if they can talk them round.

But if we have strong reservations about the implementation of the policy statement, we also recognise that the president has, not a moment too soon, given the situation of blacks priority in the system which so blatantly excludes them. Taken together, his pronouncements suggest a fundamental rethinking has taken place.

Our concern is with time, rather than with good intentions. The "eight steps to hope" which we proposed on the morning of the opening of the new parliament do not appear to us to conflict with the broad statements made by President Botha. They offer directions which the government could afford to move with maximum speed and minimum disruption.

Overseas reception of President's Botha's remarks appear to have been cautiously favorable. But if his speech has bought South Africa a little more time, let us for heaven's sake not fritter it away with more talk and the taking of half-measures.

Johannesburg on Planned Black Urbanization Policy
MB300735 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The decision to move from the present system of influx control to the development of a planned urbanization program comes none too soon. Making the announcement in Parliament on Monday, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, minister of cooperation, development, and education, said that the question is no longer whether urbanization should take place, but where and how it should take place.

Black urbanization is not only inescapable, he said, it is desirable. The traditional influx control system is ineffective. Despite being enforced by a large bureaucratic machinery and tens of thousands of prosecutions annually, it has made no discernable difference to the rate of urbanization of the black people, a rate dictated on one hand by the need to earn a livelihood, and on the other by the need for labor in a growing economy.

Demographically, black urbanization will be the dominant trend of these last decades of the 20th century. The present one-third of the population that is urbanized will grow to 75 percent by the year 2000. Moreover, influx control, as it has been applied in the past, has turned out to be undesirable, in that it is not directed at the real requirements of the situation.

As a substitute, either for a sensible accommodation of new work seekers or the provision of sufficient employment opportunities in the underdeveloped regions, its effect has been negligible in virtually all aspects. It is no exaggeration to say that trying to make the system effective by applying it even more rigorously could be done only by courting disaster — ruthless repression, economic depression, mass famine in the rural areas, and unmanageable social unrest.

The system was originally formulated in the belief that the policy of decentralization as it was then applied, would so redistribute economic activity that flourishing urban centers would arise in the national states. Such towns and cities would accommodate most of the new job seekers, and, of course, there would be a concomitant decline in the growth of labor requirements in existing urban centers.

Since that belief has long since proved to have been unfounded, the need for an ordered urbanization strategy has become increasingly urgent. Dr Viljoen has pointed out that urbanization in and near the national states will continue to be given high priority. For the people living there, that obviously provided the most appropriate solution, and the greatly improved incentives package in the regional development program is designed to accelerate progress in that direction.

Dr Viljoen also said that the program will make provision for realistic conditions for new urban dwellers, but will not permit uncontrolled and illegal squatting. Further, it will be guided by the proposals of the Riekert commission, which recommended that availability of jobs and accommodation should be deciding factors in controlling the rate and distribution of the urban flow. On that set of guidelines, it was now proposed to build a positive approach, rationally directing an inevitable and necessary social phenomenon, to satisfy both the legitimate concerns of established communities and the equally legitimate aspirations of newcomers.

Johannesburg Cites State Department on Disinvestment
MB300605 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The American Government has reaffirmed its categorical opposition to the withdrawal of American investment from South Africa as a way of forcing change. A State Department spokesman, Mr Bernard Kalb, made the statement when commenting on an interview with the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, which was published in the American newspapers, *THE WASHINGTON POST* and *THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR*.

In the interview, Mr Botha expressed concern about the growing movement to force American companies out of South Africa. Mr Kalb said that American businesses had played an important role in encouraging change away from apatheid in the business sector. In the last 7 years, they had also spent about 200 million rand on projects outside the workplace, designed to help blacks. Mr Kalb said this type of activity should be encouraged, not punished.

He also cited a poll conducted by the University of Natal, which had shown that 75 percent of black workers were in favor of continued American investment. Mr Kalb welcomed the spirit of concilliatory statements made by Mr Botha in the interview towards the imprisoned ANC leader, Nelson Mandela, in response to an offer by Mandela of a truce between the ANC and the government in return for talks on future of South Africa. While making it clear that he was speaking for himself, Mr Kalb

said the American Government had repeatedly called for meaningful dialogue between the South African Government and all serious black groups to discuss the reform of apartheid and movement towards a system of government based on the consent of the governed in South Africa.

Paper Discusses Trade Ties With United States

MB260950 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 26 Jan 85 p 7

[Editorial: "The Looming Forces"]

[Text] Disinvestment and sanctions have been big bad wolves for years. And who has really been afraid of them? Our ability to make arms or to get them under the counter, our ability to buy oil, albeit at high cost, our possession of strategic minerals and our position as a major source of trading and investment profit to Western Europe, have combined to induce a sense of impregnability.

But a new factor has intervened. To us, the United States is a significant trading partner; but in that country's terms its economic relationship with us amounts to peanuts. So we can be dumped — which is exactly the process now underway and gathering speed.

Some South Africans rail against this. They accuse Americans of being hypocritical and sanctimonious and of having terrible problems of their own. All true, although perhaps not to the extent some would like to believe.

In any event, so what? The fact is that, for reasons which range from America's own history to modern moral beliefs, we are viewed as pariahs. The distaste with which America, and much else of the world, looks at us is becoming a palpable thing.

Nor can disinvestment be dismissed as the preserve of evil communists and long-haired anarchists. The movement is in many ways thoroughly respectable, and is drawing support even from Republicans — the sort of conservatives who until now have been staunchly opposed to any disruption of the status quo. Nor, of course, is disinvestment purely economic. It includes political action — with pressure on the Reagan administration to get away from the friendliness and protection which are integral to constructive engagement.

The reason for the pressure is brutally simple. The Government here has not delivered enough. Washington might not realise the extent to which it has been led by the nose on Namibia but it has begun to realise that all is not well there. It has also begun to believe that the Government's reform means little in practice.

Yesterday's speech by the State President contains the seeds of change. The emphasis on dealing with black grievances is a hopeful sign. We welcome it for that. Yet, clearly, we will have to wait to see what it all means in practice. And, equally clearly, the cautious, carefully worded speech will have little or no impact on the advocates of disinvestment. Only real action will reduce their influence.

South African business leaders obviously are aware of that. Hence the remarkable coming together of such a wide spectrum of business organisations, cutting across sector interests and the usual English-Afrikaner divide, in presenting a joint memorandum to Senator Kennedy during his visit a fortnight ago.

It was a fine memorandum, setting out progressive views in the political arena. But Senator Kennedy cannot be faulted for his brisk reply: calls for reform are not "a substitute for concrete actions to achieve fundamental rights."

Two threats now exist. First, that disinvestment will roll along, gathering in size and pace. We have said before we believe this to be harmful, counter-productive process. Bishop Desmond Tutu offers a way of deflecting it: after previous ambivalence, he has declared himself in favor of setting conditions — that certain things must be done within 18 to 24 months or disinvestment will be backed. His conditions are hardly extreme, relating as they do to ending the fierce control over the movement of black people, allowing unionisation and improving education.

The second threat is that the Reagan administration will put the boot in. If that happens, it will be irrevocable. It is unlikely that the South African Government, as presently constituted, will ever again have the opportunities for help and friendship which it now enjoys in Washington. The "window of opportunity," as it is described, is open for perhaps another six months, and certainly not beyond the end of this year.

How to deal with the dangerous looming forces? And in doing so, not merely placate the world but do what South Africa needs?

We urge readers to look again at our "eight steps to hope" which we published yesterday... That must be the start. Quite soon, we hope, we will be able to tell whether Mr P.W. Botha's speech preages some at least of those essential changes.

Radio Freedom Urges Violence Against Apartheid System

EA251519 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Compatriots, the recently exposed, cold blooded, murder of one of the patriotic leaders of the democratic movement of our country has reaffirmed the fact that the apartheid regime is all out to murder, imprison, and silence the democratic voice of the majority.

The cowardly murder of William (Karachi) therefore is to us a call to battle. It is an indication that the racists are still determined to kill as much leaders of our democratic movements as they possibly can. How then do we confront this enemy? How do you reply to this naked terror of the regime? It is a fact that we cannot afford to coexist in our residential areas with the very police who are unleashing this reign of terror against us and our leaders. The petrol bombing of the home of the racist policeman in Guildford West yesterday was one of the ways in which we have to respond to the reactionary violence of the regime.

We can not just sit and fold our arms as these angels of death who are dripping with the blood of innocent civilians are still moving in our midst. We must make life unbearable. They must know that they do not belong among us. Their place is in (Voortrekkerberg), in (Voitzes), and in (Wundersburg) and not in populated Soweto or (Gormachi). They must know that as long as they continue serving this system, (?be it) overtly or covertly, they will remain potential victims of the people's anger. On the other hand, attacking homes of these puppets alone is not enough. It is the apartheid system that is oppressing us using several means of which the police force is a part. So our anger must spread and [word indistinct] the entire apartheid system and its [word indistinct]. All those who work to perpetuate this criminal system are our enemies and they must be bundled up and destroyed with the system.

Fellow countrymen, we have long passed the stage where we have been arguing whether violence is the only way out left for us. The question today is how to embark on this revolutionary violence. We have on several occasions in the past referred to our fight as the people's war. That is our one and only answer to that question. It is we, the people of South Africa, in our numbers, that must fight for the destruction of this hated system. We have to organize ourselves into small underground cells of the ANC [African National Congress] consisting of a few and trustworthy persons.

After having accomplished that task, each cell must start devising plans of obtaining weapons. Our country, dear compatriots, is littered with weapons and explosives of different sorts. These weapons are manufactured and purchased with the sole purpose of perpetuating the (?shaky) apartheid system which we seek to destroy at the shortest possible time. It is therefore our duty to devise plans of taking these weapons away from the criminal hands of the racist. We can buy them if there is a way and we can break into the armouries or shops that sell them. If your cell has a white (?person), he can find easier means of obtaining these weapons either by buying them or by stealing them from his white boss. At the same time we can also attack these armed councillors and disarm them. There are many ways, fellow countrymen. What is needed is that we sit down and think deeply and then move into action. In this year of the (?cadre), let each and everyone of us belong to an ANC cell and take active part in the execution of the people's war. Forward with the peoples war. Botha must go. Power to the people.

SWAZILAND

Briefs

FRG Envoy Leaving — The West German ambassador to Swaziland, Mr Hasso Buchrucker, this morning called on the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, to bid him farewell at the end of his 3-year term as his country's ambassador to the Kingdom of Swaziland. The West German ambassador, based in Maputo, assured the prime minister of his government's continued assistance in various fields of technical assistance to Swaziland. [Excerpt] [*Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 28 Jan 85 MB*]

ZAMBIA

Bulgarian Prime Minister Continues Visit

Filipov, Mundia Address Dinner

MB291323 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia has said Zambia is calling upon the United States to show nobility, being the only force with the power and means to force the South African racist regime to grant Namibia independence and end apartheid inside South Africa itself.

Speaking during a dinner he hosted for visiting chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria, Grisha Filipov, in Lusaka last night, Mr Mundia said the Namibian independence issue is the sole hope of all peace-loving people of that country. He said freedom is a mere dream to the South African black majority who are being down-trodden by apartheid.

The prime minister said invaluable human resources are being destroyed daily in Namibia and South Africa by the racist forces who arrest and torture the indigenous blacks. He said peace, security, and liberty are the key issues by which human resources and happiness can be promoted on earth.

In reply, Mr Filipov said his visit to Zambia comes at a time when certain nations are building up their military arsenals to gain illusionary military superiority, and said his country condemns racism and apartheid. He said the socialist bloc cherishes the preservation of military equilibrium and replacing confrontation by the relations of confidence and mutual struggle for peaceful negotiations in the interest of the entire mankind.

Speaks in Chingola

MB291833 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Jan 85

[Text] Visiting Bulgarian Prime Minister Grisha Filipov has said his country will continue to assist Zambia consolidate her political independence and attain a meaningful self-sufficiency.

Speaking on arrival in Chingola, Mr Filipov said his country's involvement in Zambia's affairs dates back to preindependence days, when it offered material assistance to politicians fighting for the country's freedom, to date, when his country is now helping Zambia build a new and happy life for her people. Mr Filipov described the nation-building task ahead of Zambia as a very difficult one, but expressed confidence that with assistance from his country and Eastern bloc countries, Zambia will be able to surmount her difficulties and make a brighter and happier future for all.

While in Chingola, the delegation visited Muchanga open pits and the mine plant area, and later Mr Filipov and his delegation departed for Livingstone. And in Livingstone, the Bulgarian delegation, accompanied by Secretary of State for Defense and Security Grey Zulu, viewed the Victoria Falls from the [name indistinct] Bridge, the main bridge connecting Zambia and Zimbabwe, before returning to Lusaka this evening.

Meets With Kaunda

MB300633 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has praised Bulgaria's stand against imperialism and exploitation of man by another, and said the stand (?concurred) well with Zambia's stand against apartheid. Speaking when he met the visiting Bulgarian prime minister, Grisha Filipov, at State House, Dr Kaunda said Bulgarian President Zhivkov's contribution to international peace was not only for that country, but for the whole of mankind.

The president said Zambians admired President Zhivkov for what he had done in eliminating fascism from his country, and bringing about socialism. He recalled that the two countries shared so much in common, and that is why Zambia allowed her soil to be used as a (?base) for Namibia and South Africa.

The president said Zambians held Mr Filipov's visit to his country as an important occasion, as it would cement further warm relations between the two countries.

Zulu Praises Ties With FRG in Meeting Legislators

MB281849 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 28 Jan 85

[Text] Secretary of State for Defense and Security Mr Grey Zulu has hailed the warm relations between the FRG and Zambia. When visiting German parliamentarians called on him at his office, Mr Zulu voiced Zambia's gratitude with the development aid given by the Germans to Zambia. He was optimistic that the bonds of bilateral cooperation would continue.

The visiting group comprises the German Parliament Budgetary Allocations Committee responsible for developing countries. They are in the country for an on-the-spot check of local development [word indistinct].

Foreign Minister Reaffirms Faith in UN

MB300700 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Prof Lameck Goma, says that Zambia will continue to (?proclaim) her faith in the United Nations, because it held the greatest hope for mankind in the long search for lasting peace in the world. Professor Goma was speaking at a hotel in Lusaka during a reception hosted in honor of Zambia's permanent representative to the United Nations, and president of the 39th session of the UN General Assembly, Mr Paul Lusaka.

He pointed out that the division of the world into two super blocs, various tragic violations of human rights, injustice, and hunger were justification of the need to have the UN organization. However, he expressed misgivings that the UN future was currently under siege at the hands of some powerful founders and other member states.

Replying to Professor Goma's remarks, Mr Lusaka said that the honor bestowed on him as the president of the 39th session of the UN General Assembly was an honor for the Zambian people, because it reflected the confidence the world had in Zambia.

Finance Minister Presents Budget to Parliament

MB260716 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Luke Mwananshiku has said that the solution to higher prices is not in the reintroduction of price control but in an increase in the production of goods. Presenting this year's budget to the parliament, Mr Mwananshiku said experience elsewhere in the world had shown that where an imbalance between supply and demand exists, it is futile and expensive to introduce and police price controls. He pointed out that there is no black marketeering in [word indistinct] for those commodities which the country is presently able to produce in abundance, such as eggs, onions, tomatoes, and chickens. The minister said, quote, this clearly indicates that the problem is one of supply and not the absence of price controls. [no close quote as heard] He said that also surely if the production of other commodities could be increased, black marketeering and queues would disappear [words indistinct] and prices were stabilized.

The minister said the economic policy this year will try to relieve pressure on prices by introducing measures aimed at matching demand with supply. Increasing the supply of goods and services in the economy and managing demand so that the [word indistinct] can (?make clear) equilibrium is not easy and involves sacrifice, he emphasized. Unless we understand this and do so clearly, we shall not be able to properly understand [word indistinct] the economic crusade in our individual and collective programs of action in 1985.

He noted that the performance of the economy last year continued to be unsatisfactory, due mainly to a shortage of foreign exchange. The predominent foreign exchange earner, the mining sector, continued to face problems owing to the difficulties in production and [word indistinct] prices, and although the ZCCM [Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines] managed to have a small profit of 1 million kwacha, mainly due to loss (?saving) measures, its contribution to the gross domestic product remained low.

The government has increased the prices of petroleum products, cigarettes, as well as clear and opaque beer with effect from midnight. Presenting this year's budget to parliamment, Finance Minister Luke Mwananshiku said the price of premium petrol has increased by 4 ngwee, regular by 3 ngwee, diesel by 2 ngwee, and kerosene by 1 ngwee. Mr Mwananshiku said it was necessary to increase the price of kerosene, because contrary to public belief an increase in volume of this commodity was in fact been used by transporters.

Road tolls have been scrapped and instead motor vehicle license fees have increased as a means to raise revenue for the maintenance of roads. The minister of finance announced this in parliament this afternoon, saying the fees will apply to all classes of motor vehicles and government expects to raise some 3 million kwacha in revenue through the increase. During his budget speech, the minister said the decision to scrap road tolls and increase motor vehicle license fees instead has been taken following views expressed in the house and by the general public on the matter. The change takes effect at midnight tonight.

Mr Mwananshiku also announced an increase in sales tax on imports from 12.5 percent to 15 percent, and that of local products and services that currently attract sales tax from 10 percent to 16 percent, in a move expected to bring in approximately 12 million kwacha.

Addressing himself to the ZCCM, Mr Mwananshiku noted that the mining institution contributed to government revenue through export tax and mineral tax, in addition to paying the taxes that are of general application to the (?rural) economy, and having examined the institution he had decided to exempt the ZCCM from equity loading, but on the other hand decided to marginally raise the mineral export tax from the current 8 percent to 10 percent, in an arrangement expected to result in an increased revenue estimated at 33 million kwacha.

The government has agreed that trade unions should continue to negotiate freely their conditions of service with employers. [Words indisitnct] announcemment by Luke Mwananshiku has advised the unions to seek moderate wage settlements and to avert strikes so as to avert pressure on (?prices).

ZIMBABWE

HERALD on President Reagan's Second Term

MB260956 Harare THE HERALD in English 21 Jan 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Mr Ronald Reagan"]

[Text] Mr Ronald Reagan today starts his second term as President of the United States of America.

This by no means is a historical feat. Many before him have been two-term presidents. Five of the the first chief executives of the United States, starting with George Washington, served for two terms.

Since 1933, six American presidents, including Mr Reagan, an ex-film star and governor of the State of California, have won second terms. But it is to Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Richard M. Nixon that Mr Reagan should relate his second term.

Those three presidents' second terms were beleaguered with problems to the extent that their departure from office brought relief not only to the Americans but even to the outside world. Richard Nixon had to resign in shame after a humiliating declaration that "I am not a crook."

Since coming to office Mr Reagan has been the greatest crusader of poorly defined and often contradictory "Western values and democracy" which in Latin America has shown to be blatant in interference in internal affairs of such countries as Nicaragua.

In southern Africa where a white minority regime has hijacked black nations in the name of Western values and "civilisation," and consolidated itself with Western capital, Mr Reagan has only prescribed an occasional public criticism.

It is, of course, unlikely that an American president would ever be so tangled up in southern African issues that it might affect the way America Inc managed. But the ground swell of opinion in America in opposition to apartheid and the imminent explosion of the pent-up frustrations of blacks because of America's pussyfooting are things Mr Reagan cannot pretend to continue ignoring in his second term.

The anti-communist blistering pace that Mr Reagan set himself during his first term, his no nonsense militaristic attitude and his fervent belief in the godliness of free enterprise not only in America but for the entire world will come to haunt him in his second four years in the White House.

This is because while Mr President will have nothing to lose now that by law he cannot seek a third term, those around him have already staked their claim to either the presidency or other powerful lucrative offices in future administrations.

If Mr Reagan is such a great tactician as he is made out to be by his people how can he fail to see that American policy in Southern Africa is making them lose control of events in the region?

Does he not understand that by continuing to shore up Western oriented racist regimes he is setting the stage for a violent revolution that could only end with the annihilation of the so-called Western values in Africa?

If America truly has the desire to keep the Soviet Union out of the region it can only do so by influencing the direction of the revolution in southern Africa. And this can only be achieved by America itself helping to bring about genuine peaceful change. This cannot be done by frustrating the independence of Namibia nor by the policy of constructive engagement.

Otherwise if Mr Reagan's presidency becomes the lame duck that characterises most second terms then he can blame his failure to solve the southern African racial problems on his over-enthusiasm to appease the ultra-right during his first term.

Shamuyarira Urges Australian Opposition to RSA

MB260720 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jan 85

[Text] Zimbabwe has urged Australia and other progressive nations to maintain their stand against the domestic and foreign policies of the racist regime in South Africa. The call was made by the minister of information, posts, and telecommunications, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, at a reception marking Australia's national day yesterday. He said Zimbabwe will continue to

give unstinting support to Namibia through the OAU to ensure the success of the liberation struggle being waged by SWAPO. The minister said Zimbabwe is opposed to any attempts to mortgage the independence of Namibia on irrelevant and extraneous issues. Comrade Shamuyarira commended Australia for increasing its aid to famine-stricken countries in Africa by $12 million.

Speaking on the same occasion, the Australian ambasssador to Zimbabwe, Mr Allen Edwards, said his government firmly believes that independence should be brought to Namibia without delay and in accordance with the UN resolution.